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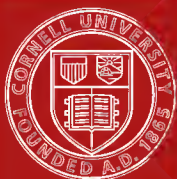
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# REMINISCENCES

OF

# CHARLESTON.

BY

J. N. CARDOZO.

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CHARLESTON:

JOSEPH WALKER, Agr., STATIONER AND PRINTER,  
129 Meeting-st.  
1866.



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## PREFACE.

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AN absence of five years from Charleston, a city in which I had resided sixty-five years, must have induced many recollections that merit preservation, if they have left the traces of some that should be forgotten. The propriety of publishing a volume of Reminiscences embracing so long a tract of time, has been suggested by some of my friends. There are many things of which nothing but vague tradition retains the memory, and which are rapidly passing into oblivion. To preserve these waifs that are floating on the stream of time—to rescue these fragments may not be worthy of the pen of the historian, but that they should have a local habitation, and, if possible, a permanent record among the *memorabilia* of life—will scarcely admit of dispute. In gathering the materials for, and compiling this volume, and giving it the stamp of authenticity, where my memory has failed me, in recollecting *dates*, I have sought support for my statements in the better recollection of others. As regards *facts*, I do not require any such adventitious aid. As time recedes from view, it is a law of nature that recollection brightens with the progress of years, while shadows gather over that which is more recent.

It was my purpose to have made this volume of Reminiscences comprehensive, if I could have obtained more ample materials, but there was only one file of newspapers in the city, reaching far enough back, and that by the disorder and confusion incident to war, was rendered inaccessible. The Supplement, which will be valuable for reference, has been prepared with great care by the REV. U. S. BIRD, from a journal kept of all the incidents of the war, by MR. A. B. HOLMES, and may, therefore, be relied on for its accuracy.

From necessity, I was limited to Charleston and Charlestonians who are deceased, for otherwise the work would have been too voluminous and expensive.

The proposals at first issued, were for a publication of one hundred pages, at fifty cents per copy, but I found it was not possible to compress the matter within that space. I was, therefore, compelled to extend it to one hundred and fifty pages, and to charge seventy-five cents per copy, the quantity of matter being more than equivalent to the additional charge.

CHARLESTON, JUNE 17, 1866.

# REMINISCENCES.

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## ASPECT OF CHARLESTON.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, May 28, 1866.

Having re-visited Charleston, after an absence of five years (with the exception of a period of a few days in the summer of 1864). I am induced to jot down some of the most remarkable objects and events that may be worthy of record and preservation. I have been a pretty constant resident of the city of Charleston for a period of sixty-five years, where I arrived from Savannah in the year 1796, and left in April, 1861, during which time I have witnessed many important changes in its commerce, business, and population. There are many things that I would willingly forget, the recollection of which is poignant and bitter, among which is the loss of many friends, almost all of them my juniors, leaving my contemporaries, "like angels' visits, few and far between." There are some other matters connected with associations that revive pleasant memories. There are other things again that I would not willingly let die, so bright are the hues they reflect, and to which I would assign a permanent record, if possible, as meriting preservation, and which time is rapidly hurrying to that stream of oblivion on which is borne the general current of events.

I have stated that I arrived in the city in the summer of 1864. My stay was brief, for it is impossible to give expression to the mingled feelings of sorrow and desolation at the then aspect of Charleston—the ravages of

shells upon the fronts of elegant residences and stores in which had been heard naught but the sounds of hilarity or of business—the grass and weeds in the most frequented streets reaching an elevation above the head, the crumbling walls, and the long stacks of chimneys, the effects of the recent destructive fire. I repeat, it is impossible to find language to delineate the impressions produced from the contemplation of this scene of desolation. The Federals had ceased to throw shells into the city for some days, and as the few friends who remained within its limits appeared to cast an increased gloom over its shattered habitations and ruined walls, I quickly returned to Savannah.

Those who are able to recall the images that thronged the mind in the summer of 1860, during the attack of Fort Sumter, when the flashing of guns and the booming of cannon startled from their slumbers the citizens of Charleston—those that are able to bring back the train of associations which gilded that brilliant spectacle when the east and south battery were crowded with beautiful women, and the long array of gay carriages and music and conversation blended their attractions, in the cool of the evening, as they took their way for nearly a mile in succession; but, particularly, those who can recall the bombardment of Fort Sumter, can never be oblivious of that scene when the combat drew crowds from the most distant parts of the city to witness the fight, the whole eastern face of the battery lined with anxious spectators, following the ricochetting of the balls, with flashing eyes and excited tones—who, we repeat, can recall these circumstances with any other than feelings of sadness in the contemplation of the present aspect of the city, and at witnessing the contrast presented after five years of a desolating war, not only in the present stillness and solitude of the scene, but in the social revolution that has blasted the fortunes and marred the prosperity of those who now move over it.

Let us, however, dismiss this unpleasant phase of the subject, and record a few of the particulars of a siege and conflagration without a parallel in the history of

the world, when so much that was left standing by the ravages of shell and shot was consumed by the flames.

Commencing from the Battery, and proceeding down East Bay until reaching Tradd street, the destructive course of the shell thrown into the city was most evident, while the fire has left melancholy traces of its destructive course on both the eastern and western portions, crossing its entire width, and leaving long intervals of desolate waste in the destruction of churches, theatre, and public hall. The area consumed was about one-sixth of the city, nearly one mile in superficial extent. It is, however, gratifying to perceive that no part of the handsome western suburb, commonly designated as the Rutledge Avenue, and the houses to the west of it down to Ashley river, have been injured by fire or shells; and it is no less a subject of congratulation that improvements are in contemplation among other portions—the erection of a hall, a theatre, and several commodious stores, with the widening of streets, which will greatly add to its embellishment and renovation.

## AGRICULTURE—THE LOW COUNTRY PLANTERS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, Monday, May 31, 1866.

Agriculture recovers very slowly from its prostration, nor can we expect a different state of things until the relation between the white and colored races has become more stable, and the results more certain of free labor. The efforts of planters, in the meantime, must continue desultory and a matter of uncertain calculation. There can be no regular income, while the outlay will be uncertain, from the fluctuating price and irregular returns of labor. The fate of what is called the low country planter, merits sympathy. Living, as they have been, almost in a style of princely hospitality on their ample domains, surrounded with affluence, generally with cultivated tastes and refined manners—the low country planter was an example of courtesy, unaffected and without pretension. There was a species of patriarchal relation in the mode of life when surrounded by his household slaves, in that reciprocity of protection and obedience that exists between master and servant, when the child of the former becomes the playmate and companion of the latter, mingling their pastimes, and when sickness and old age required that attention which are due to imbecility and infirmity. In reality, we know not in the whole circle of affections a more interesting spectacle than those family servants who have grown grey in the service of a long line of ancestry, who have been reared in the bosom of families, and have descended to their graves with their masters.

To the low country planter Charleston was indebted for much of its gaiety, and the liberal expenditure that fed the streams of industry and currents of business. He, in fact, imparted a tone of refinement to this section of the State. Many of them being men of leisure

and education, visited Charleston during the summer months, and had their charming residences in the suburbs or on Sullivan's Island. The pervading spirit of Charleston society was therefore that of refined intercourse. There was a geniality in this intercourse that rendered it highly attractive—the mercantile and planting classes were on the best terms. There was none of that discordance of interest and opinion that is found so frequently between the inhabitants of town and country. The Sea Island and Rice planter were often found at the table of the merchant, and this hospitality was reciprocated. Commerce became thus blended with pursuits between which there was nothing uncongenial. There was no dissimilarity of interest. Hospitalities never sit so gracefully as when dispensed by the man of leisure, who embellishes his retreat by the social virtues—and by the liberal culture of literature and the arts.

Those who can look back for a period of fifty years, will find no difficulty in recalling the names and presence of the Heywards, the Manigaults, the Lowndes, the Middletons, the Hegers, who came at every recurring period of summer to transfer their hospitality from the banks of the Santee or Waccamaw, to the shores of the Cooper and Ashley.

The loss of material wealth—the wanton destruction of the goods of life can be borne; they may be replaced, but what can restore the ethereal principle which has produced those works of art that have embellished our galleries, and adorned the walls of our dwellings? It will ever be a subject of poignant regret that works of genius, in common with the most ordinary objects of military capture, fell a sacrifice to the wanton spirit of ruthless war. That hostility against books and pictures should have been carried on, in an era of civilization, is without a parallel in history. Instances without number, have occurred since the commencement of the war, where the appeals of taste no less than the claims of humanity have been disregarded.

The treasures of art have in modern times followed the standard of the conqueror; but while the contents

of galleries have been deemed among the spoils of victory, these treasures have remained among the objects of future imitation and undying admiration. When Napoleon Bonaparte rifled the galleries of Italy, and their contents were transferred to the Louvre, they were not mutilated or lost to the world—they remained among the imperishable trophies of genius—the memorials of a power; but the undistinguishing fury of a blind rage makes no difference between a Raphael or a Claude Lorraine and the merest daub of art. All are involved in a common destruction. It appeared as if the licentious soldier sought those objects of *virtu* on which he could vent his spirit of *diabolism*. He held the rules of discipline in no more regard than he did the precepts of morality.

It has been said, in palliation of these excesses, that many of those raids that partook so largely of the predatory practices of licentious warfare, were acts beyond control amidst the passions engendered by a civil conflict. This is an inadequate plea in the midst of the humanizing influences by which we are surrounded. At all events, the Southerner who has been reared amidst the refinements of civilization, and has enjoyed the solace afforded by liberal culture, has reason to deplore that his lot has been cast in a period so devoid of all moral restraint.

The reverse of fortune which has visited the planters of the low country of South Carolina, can scarcely find a parallel anywhere. Suddenly cast down into the abyss of poverty, the most painful contrasts are presented. The owner of two hundred to five hundred slaves, with a princely income, has not only to submit to the most degraded employments, but he frequently cannot obtain them. In some instances, he has to drive a cart, or attend a retail grocery, while he may have to obey the orders of an ignorant and coarse menial. There is something unnatural in this reverse of position—something revolting to our sense of propriety in this social degradation. The only similarity to it must be sought in the status of the expelled population of the French Antilles, which was driven on our shores in a destitute condition.



## THE COMMERCE OF CHARLESTON.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 2, 1866.

Charleston has seen its palmiest days of commercial prosperity, when its share of the direct trade to Europe enabled it to build those extensive warehouses that made it essential for storing those increasing quantities of merchandize which Charleston, from its geographical position, rendered so convenient as the depot for West India products intended for the European market, and European merchandize designed for West India consumption. It was at this period that those very large structures were erected on our lower wharves, called Geyer's stores. It would be convenient to divide the history of its commerce into two epochs:

1. The period before the Berlin and Milan decrees, and British Orders in Council, and

2. The period subsequent to those measures which resulted in the war of 1812.

As a consequence of the neutral position of the United States, a large share of the carrying trade was thrown into the hands of the Americans, soon after the breaking out of the French revolution, and the Southern ports were made the depots, as we have said, of large quantities of European and West India merchandize—the produce of the latter, their bulky products—sugar and coffee—requiring a large amount of shipping, being exchanged for the manufactures of Europe. Charleston, from her proximity to the former, became a convenient half-way house for the supplies indispensably necessary on both sides. She enjoyed, consequently, a lucrative commerce from 1792 until about 1807, when the embargo and non-intercourse acts, followed by the war of 1812, took place. This was the great dividing line before and subsequent to this period.

On the return of peace in 1815, the intercourse with Europe changed its character. It received its direction from the extended culture of cotton and the system of internal improvements, which gave rapid development to our agricultural resources. The exports of Charleston, when not consisting of foreign productions, which sought an outlet through her convenient port, consisted, in most part, of tobacco, indigo, deer-skins, beeswax, &c.; they now were composed of cotton, rice, &c. These more bulky products were struggling for an exit through the ports lying on our Atlantic seaboard, the commerce of our gulf ports not yet having received that extension and profitable direction that it afterwards took. The cotton of South Carolina and Georgia sought the means of transportation and outlet to the most convenient sea-port, which was Charleston.

The writer distinctly recollects, as must some others, that it was to the persevering and persistent efforts of Alexander Black and Tristram Tupper that the longest line of railroad connecting Charleston with Augusta and the interior of Georgia was completed, and the exports of Charleston assumed that magnitude which they afterwards reached. The class of merchants and the character of both its inland and foreign trade had in the interval entirely changed. The long line of wagons that brought to the doors of the recipients supplies of tobacco and indigo had given place to the iron horse and the steamboat; the country storekeeper for the supply of the wants of the interior to the merchant exporter of valuable products, who removed his establishment from the upper part of King street, where he had erected spacious stores for the increasing wants of his business, to East Bay—the class of new merchants who were ushered in by the cotton trade and its speculative operations, in which, if the profits were occasionally enormous, its losses were of a commensurate character.

The class of merchants who grew out of the direct foreign trade of Charleston with the ports of Europe, arising from the neutral relations of the United States, had withdrawn from business or were dead at the

period to which we refer. The Russells, Crafts, Winthrops, Tunnos, Hasletts, Hazlehursts, were replaced by those who were connected with the indirect trade through Northern ports—with the shipment of produce through New York and the business of foreign exchange through the same channel connected therewith.

The commerce of Charleston has undergone a great change since—not in character, but extent. Cotton still forms the bulk of its exports—the staple of its production. From the removal of the blockade to the 1st of June her exports have not exceeded 89,760 bales. Business has taken nearly the same channels. Many new firms have superceded the old ones both in the export and domestic and inland trade, and it is conducted on nearly the same principles—the shipper of cotton to Europe draws either on Liverpool or Havre, and sends his bill to New York, the great financial centre, for sale. Our imports are made through the same channel, the principal difference in the character of our foreign trade being that, from the destruction of our bank capital, the business of foreign exchange has fallen into private hands.

The receipts from customs in Charleston in ten months, from July 1, 1866, were rather over \$300,000. Dutiable goods in warehouse about \$35,000. If the amount and rate of duty are compared before and subsequent to the war, it will be seen that Charleston has not declined in its foreign trade, except as regards its exports. To the best of our recollection the *amount* received for duties on the average of some years before the war was \$500,000, while the average rate of duty is nearly fifty per centum, particularly when it is recollected that the present duties are payable in gold, and especially when it is borne in mind that the season for importation had closed. These afford encouraging signs of the revival of the foreign commerce of Charleston as far as importation is concerned. As relates to the exports, it is needless to say that *they* depend on the demand and supply of our staple products.

## CHARLESTON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 4, 1866.

When about leaving Savannah, I was requested to obtain as detailed an account as possible of the free school system of Charleston, which had worked well, as the trustees and tutors of the Savannah Free Schools were about to reorganize their free school system. For this purpose I placed myself in communication with a gentleman who had devoted much time and attention to the subject of the free schools, and to whom I am indebted for the following lucid and satisfactory statement. I will, if possible, obtain an account of the other educational institutions of Charleston, *i. e.*: the High School and the Charleston College.

We started with the fact that every surrounding of a child must, of necessity, be educational, physical or otherwise. One effort, then, was to make everything contribute to his or her proper development. Thus the site of our houses was selected with the view of rendering them as healthy and pleasant as possible, with spacious surroundings. The houses were then made of sufficient amplitude to accommodate, with generous space, the children of its vicinage. This estimated number, divided (theoretically) into as many classes of thirty or forty as would secure proper classification of intellect. For the most perfect accommodation of these, our schools were planned, giving one story of the building to each department. Next, a class-room to each class, and an assembly and robe-room to each department, with ample stairs, closets, play-room, cisterns, water-tanks for washing, retiring closets—all constructed and arranged in the most perfect and convenient manner. All these rooms, besides commanding the best aspects, with ample light and air from every

quarter, and the means for regulating these, have each an artificial ventilation, and are with fourteen to sixteen feet stories. The walls are covered with blackboards, and furnished with not only the most comfortable and convenient, but elegant and finished furniture, specially constructed for schools and adapted to children.

I am thus full and particular in the arrangement and appointment of the school-houses; for they secure the comfort and health of the children for all time, and upon their comfort depends their physical development, and upon this, in great measure, the intellectual and moral, and therefore the final success and usefulness of all these. Besides, the temper, taste, elevation of feeling and character, manners and conduct generally, are, beyond doubt, influenced by these surroundings. This will be sufficient for a general understanding of our material preparations.

The books, maps and other machinery of the school are selected by the principal and committee of each school, and established by the Board, with general rules and by-laws.

The organization begins with the appointment of a principal for each department; one gentleman for the boys, and for general control. One lady for the girls' department, and one for the primary—a teacher, too, is appointed for each class in the class room.

Each child, as received, is examined by its principal, and sent to that class to which its examination proves it to be amply qualified for. Books, which are carefully selected, and are constantly progressive, are given to each child; and to each teacher such appliances as can be secured. A regular progressive programme is drawn up, a portion of which embracing each study, is given to each teacher, defining the steps and progress she is expected to take with her class in a given time; with the daily order of exercises, with times for each. Thus the teacher is responsible for her class; has no other duty; and for the condition of the room, its ventilation, order, and appointments and discipline, with no distracting duty beyond. She is free to use her own

method, art, action or genius in disciplining or teaching subject to the constant supervision of the principal, and who alone has authority to whip.

The principals are, in turn, responsible to the supervisory committee, and to all the general laws of the Board of Commissioners.

It will be observed that there are no stereotyped plans, books, systems or machinery, but just a complete and accurate organization and arrangement that will enable you to secure the best practices and methods for the various ages and the most effective teaching.

The larger the classes and fewer of them the cheaper, the better the classification and the more perfect the general results.

The ability, skill, zeal, and experience of the principals thus permeates the whole and leavens the mass.

It admits of teachers of varied ability being employed, and in the lower class those of a low standard of intellectual acquirements may be made effective, though not preferable, with young children when they possess vivacity, tact, or natural gift.

It enables almost every class to be taught effectively by young women, who are certainly more successful with children, and who were not only intended by Heaven for the development of children, but whose influence is so much better than that of the ruder sex; and by adding so much to the facility and economy of schools as greatly to aid the cause of general education.

I should add, that as the children in the primary department reach a given standard, they are sent to a higher department for "Boys" and "Girls," where the sexes are separated. In the primary, the sexes are together in school, but use different stairs and playgrounds. A teacher always has charge of the playground during recess.

I trust that the foregoing will afford a sufficiently defined outline to enable any one to supply detail too tedious for such a communication.

Under this system the school at the Orphan House is successfully conducted. With one principal (a lady) and eight teachers, we thoroughly educate to the point

to which education is carried there, three hundred to three hundred and twenty children, at a cost of about eight dollars each per annum.

The progress and attainments of the pupils will compare favorably, I think, with that of any other pupils engaged in similar studies.

Our public schools in Charleston accommodated comfortably from three thousand to four thousand pupils—averaging from eight hundred to one thousand pupils to each school-house.

## CHARLESTON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 7, 1866.

I stated in a previous letter, that at the request of one of the teachers of the Savannah Free Schools, I had furnished an account of the Free School system of Charleston. This account must be understood as applying to the system as it was in operation before the occurrence of hostilities. On the authority of the *Daily News*, of this city, we now state that there are three large well endowed of these schools, erected at a great expense, in Charleston, which had an average attendance of 2,500 pupils, at which there are now no whites. Let us hope to see a Whiteman's Aid Commission, ere long.

The Free School system of Charleston, it will be perceived by the above statement, is for the present suspended in Charleston, as relates to the whites. The system adopted before the war, was carefully prepared by the Commissioners, and is, in its main features, Northern. Its administration was Northern, for the teachers were brought from the North, although, as described in that letter, its basis was Southern. It will be imperfectly understood, however, unless viewed in connexion with the Orphan House and Charleston College, of which it forms a part. The Orphan House, the High School, and the Charleston College are all city institutions, under its exclusive control and superintendence, and must not be confounded with the South Carolina College and the Military Schools, which are State institutions. There is consequently unity of plan and administration in all parts of the system of tuition adopted in Charleston. The destitute orphan is transferred from the Orphan House to the High School, and is there prepared for the Charleston or any other



College, and receives his whole course of instruction gratuitously. For the clearer comprehension of the reader we will commence with the

#### ORPHAN HOUSE.

This institution was founded in 1790. During the seventy-six years of its history between two and three thousand orphan and destitute children have been maintained and educated upon its bounty, and provision has been made for the useful employment of upwards of two thousand who have left the institution during that period. The number of boys and girls in the House is between three and four hundred. The institution is under the government of a Board of Commissioners who are annually elected, and who serve without pay.

The current expenditure of the establishment is defrayed partly out of a public endowment fund held by Trustees, amounting to \$168,489 60. An excess of expenditure over income is provided for by an appropriation from the general treasury of the city. A private fund, amounting to \$76,775 98, is placed by an ordinance of the city under the immediate control of the Board of Commissioners, and is appropriated by it to the personal comfort of the children and benefit of the other members of the household.

The appraised value of the real estate of the institution, embracing the building and grounds, is \$42,000.

Since 1854 extensive additions and improvements have been made, and the Orphan House of Charleston forms a noble pile of buildings, kept in admirable order.

This noble charity is scarcely with a parallel anywhere. It had its commencement in the benefactions of all classes and denominations of our citizens. Among the contributors are Protestants of all sects, and Israelites. It has opened its doors to the members of every religious persuasion, dispensing the advantages of education to all alike, and extending the benefits of instruction to the humblest in the community, should the children placed under its bounty exhibit talent and capacity. This brings us to a view of the

## HIGH SCHOOL OF CHARLESTON.

The following is an extract from the Twentieth Annual Report of the principal of the High School of Charleston, Henry M. Bruns, L.L.D., made in 1861.

"When the school was first organized (July, 1839), it was intended to be exclusively a classical school. Four classes were established, and a course of study was adopted which prepared pupils for admission into college. After five years it was found necessary to modify this arrangement, and an English department, and French introduced as a study in both departments. This doubled the number of classes, and enlarged the labor of teachers to a considerable degree. From year to year, as the progress of the pupil warranted, and his continuance in the school permitted, the course of study continued to be gradually elevated and extended, until the High School began to assume something of the dignity of a college—a position both unnecessary and undesirable—inasmuch as those who wished a more complete education could obtain it at our College and the Military School under professors of established reputation."

After a description of the course of study, and an enumeration of the books used, Mr. Bruns proceeds to say: "I do not mean to be understood as saying that any one boy ever reads every book in the above list while connected with the school; but I do mean to say, that these books embrace what has been actually studied in the school, and that a large portion of them have been read by individual pupils, and that hundreds have entered successfully on the duties of professional life, and mercantile and other avocations, with no other education than that which they received at the High School. Of late years, it has been found necessary, from the accumulation of classes in the higher departments, to dismiss them when they reached a certain point, to pursue a further course, if they wished it, at the College or Military Academy. Formerly, many continued in the school eight years; now, few remain over six. \* \* \* \* \* As showing that the preparation at the High School has been adequate for

admission into any college in the United States, and that our pupils have not been behind their compeers in the race for distinction, is evidenced by the fact that, within the last sixteen years, High School boys have won at different colleges, eleven first honors, six second honors, and ten gold medals, for excellence in composition and elocution, besides obtaining other prizes and appointments not enumerated. If, at the end of the next twenty years, those who may then have charge of the institution can exhibit a similar list, they will have no reason to be dissatisfied with the result of their labors."

In a letter from the present Principal of the High School, W. R. Kingman, Esq., (Mr. Bruns having resigned as Principal in January, 1864,) he says that the number of pupils for the quarter commencing January 1st, 1866 is 173. The school was suspended from February to November, 1865, at which time it was re-opened, and has now a corps of able teachers.

The school is placed under a Board of Supervisors, appointed annually by the City Council. Ten scholarships have been established in the High School, and in the College of Charleston, with a view to provide for the liberal education of talented and deserving youths whose circumstances may otherwise preclude them from such a course. All scholarships conferred are to be regarded, in the first instance, as honorable appointments, which can only be retained, in the end, by the continued exhibition of capacity, diligence and good conduct.

The whole number entered since the beginning is 1492; average number for the last ten years, 148; number prepared for and entered Charleston College, 112; number prepared for and entered the Military Academy, 27; number prepared for and entered other colleges, 20. It will thus be perceived that a greater number entered Charleston College than all the other colleges combined, including the Military Academy, showing the adaptation of the High School to the College, as parts of one system of tuition. This brings us to a brief history of

## THE CHARLESTON COLLEGE.

This College was chartered by the Legislature of South Carolina in 1785. The first Principal, as he was then called, was Dr. Robert Smith, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese.

The College was discontinued until 1824, when it was revived. The first degree of B. A. under the revival was conferred on the late Dr. A. Gadsden; the second on Bishop Wightman. In 1835, from difficulties of a pecuniary character, the College was closed. In 1837, the charter was amended, and it was placed more immediately in dependence on the city. Under the new charter, it resumed its operations in 1838, under the Presidency of Rev. William Brantley, and has continued uninterruptedly to discharge its functions, with the exception of the year 1865, when the exercises were completely suspended.

I have extended this letter further than I designed: but I was desirous of presenting a connected view of the educational institutions of Charleston.

## CHARLESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 9, 1866.

It is from tradition we learn that Charleston had a Chamber of Commerce in 1783, with a seal and minutes, &c., but that not a vestige remains of them. It continued to exercise the functions of a chamber until the commercial difficulties of the United States with the two principal European powers, England and France, led to the restrictive measures growing out of the British Orders in council, and the Berlin and Milan decrees. These measures drove our commerce from the ocean. With the decline of our general trade, declined the commerce of Charleston. In about the year 1803, when those difficulties commenced, the merchants of Charleston became indifferent, and the Chamber of Commerce fell into disuse. John Maynard Davis was the first President, and such names as Nathaniel Russell, William Crafts, David Alexander, Robert Hazlehurst, &c., appeared on the minutes.

It was not until the year 1823 that an attempt was made for its revival. In the year preceding the Legislature had imposed onerous taxation on the mercantile body. A spirit of jealousy had grown up between town and country at the supposed prosperity of the former, which manifested itself by the imposition of unusual pecuniary burdens. A meeting of the merchants was called. A large number attended. A numerous committee was appointed to memorialize the Legislature on the subject, of which the writer of these Reminiscences was one, who drew up the memorial. The Legislature modified the tax. This was the occasion of the formation anew of the Chamber. The necessity of a concentration of effort in resistance to class legislation was strongly urged. The number and complexity of the transactions of an extended and extending com-

merce with various other reasons induced the policy and propriety of such an institution. The great body of merchants forthwith organized themselves, and a charter was obtained, which was renewed in 1827.

The benefit to the commerce of Charleston has been to a commensurate extent, and of the most signal character, not only in affording valuable suggestions for the development of our agricultural resources, but in the extension of our commerce and vindication of the principles of free trade.

In the year 1827 or '28, a large committee was raised, of which the writer of these Reminiscences was a member, to frame a memorial to Congress, and who again drew up the memorial against what was then called, "the bill of abominations," and which memorial was unanimously adopted at a very large public meeting. It was stated to have been the first memorial which was sent to Congress from the South on the subject of free trade, and was one of the initiatory steps to the subsequent political measures. The minutes of both Chambers have been lost, those of the last Chamber on their removal during the recent war; but as near as I can recollect Adam Tunno was the first President, and Roger Heriot the first Secretary and Treasurer, who held that office for 15 years, and was succeeded by his son, William B. Heriot. In proceeding to search a transcript or skeleton of the minutes was found, the author of these Reminiscences being *the only surviving member of the Chamber left, of a numerous body of members.*

#### THE CHARLESTON BOARD OF TRADE.

The principal object of this institution, which is of recent formation, is the protection of the interests of the jobbing trade, as auxiliary to this purpose, the extension of our inland trade, and the opening of the interior to the enterprise of the chief commercial city between Baltimore and New Orleans. With this view, the reduction of freight on our railroads is a material object. The Chamber of Commerce is more directly

interested in the export and import trade—in all that relates to our *external* commerce—in the removal of restrictions on commercial intercourse—in the reduction of such high rates of duty as impede that intercourse.

The Board of Trade takes for its field of operations the *interior* commerce of the city with the neighboring States. It has already accomplished material improvements, in reducing freight on railroads, and on one line of steamers, the People's, Willis & Chisolm, agents. It was the first since the war to send a delegation to Cincinnati, in relation to direct communication of this city with the great West.

There will be no collision of objects or clashing of functions between the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce. If the result should be the infusion of fresh blood into the body-mercantile, this is to be looked for in the course of nature, and the progress of human decay.

The first preliminary meeting was held in the Charleston Hotel Club Room, on the 23d of March, 1866, when the Board was organized, and provisional officers elected.

#### THE WEST INDIA TRADE.

As a portion of the history of the times, and connected as well with the commerce of Charleston, and the exercise of my functions as editor, of which I had recently assumed the duties, I am induced to allude to a controversy which at that time excited no little interest. It was the earnest wish, as it had been the constant endeavor, of Mr. Monroe's administration to obtain a modification, if not the removal, of the restrictions on the West India trade with the United States. It was reported that the government had entered into negotiations for this purpose. The merchants of our Southern seaports being largely interested in that trade, were about memorializing Congress on the subject. Charleston, from its geographical position, was expected to take the lead by public meetings. A meeting was called by the importunity of the merchants, a committee was appointed, of which the late William

Crafts was chairman, and who drew up a memorial which was expected to be adopted at a subsequent meeting. Conceiving that the movement was founded on a misconception of the true prosperity of Charleston, as well as of the national interest, I combatted it through the editorial columns of the *Southern Patriot*, and was resolved to oppose the memorial at the public meeting. It was read, and the vote on its adoption being about to be put, I moved an adjournment of the meeting, pledging myself to show that its adoption would materially interfere with the negotiations of the government, which expected to obtain at least a modification of the restrictions. At a subsequent public meeting, I offered such reasons as were deemed satisfactory, and the memorial was rejected. By the next Northern mail, letters were received from Washington, addressed to influential individuals in Charleston, invoking their interference against the passage of measures so counteractive of their efforts, as the lead of the City of Charleston would be followed by public meetings in nearly all the Southern cities, Savannah, Mobile, Wilmington, &c.



## THE INSURANCE OFFICES AND FIRE DEPARTMENT OF CHARLESTON.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 13, 1866.

It was as nearly as I can recollect, about the year 1821, that a gentleman entered the office of the *Southern Patriot*, of which paper I was then proprietor and editor, stating that he wished to consult with me in relation to a matter of some importance. That gentleman was Mr. William Washington, recently elected a member of the South Carolina Legislature, son of General William Washington, the celebrated partizan chief. He stated that he had been informed of the design of several gentlemen to apply to the Legislature for a charter to organize a company for insurance purposes—that he was inclined to resist the application—that our citizens had for several years effected the insurance of their property in the London Phoenix Insurance Company, and that all losses had been promptly paid, without trouble or litigation. I stated that the effect of giving a charter to a Charleston Company would be to confer a monopoly coupled with the privilege of insurance on less favorable rates than the assured could obtain abroad—that the attempt, if successful, would be attended by the withdrawal from South Carolina of all the insurance capital from beyond its limits, with the certainty of the rates of insurance being advanced, and the great probability of the loss, finally, of the whole insurance capital of Charleston. The whole of these results, it is needless to say, were realized.

The opposition of Mr. Washington was unavailing. The Union Insurance, under the Presidency of David Alexander; the Fire and Marine, under the Presidency of John Haslett; the South Carolina, under the Presidency of Thos. Middleton, were successively chartered.

The Charleston Insurance and Trust Company was chartered in 1836, and was not materially affected by the fire of 1838. The Elmore Mutual Insurance Company was chartered in 1859, and survived the disastrous fire of 1861. The Fireman's Insurance Company was chartered in 1852. The Insurance and Trust Company, the Calhoun Insurance Company, and the Carolina Insurance Company, were all rechartered in December 1861. The Calhoun Insurance Company took the place of the Fireman's Insurance Company, with a new capital subscribed and paid in subsequently to the fire of 1861.

From the period of our first arrival in Charleston, which was in 1796, there was scarcely an interval of from three to five years in which a large fire did not occur. It was of rare occurrence that a fire took place below the line of Broad street, on the south, and Market street, on the north, and Archdale street, on the west; and, what was no less remarkable, they embraced the business portions of the city, in which there were deposited large quantities of portable property, particularly merchandize, leading to the supposition that they were the work of incendiaries.

The Fire Department of Charleston was thoroughly reorganized after the great fire of 1838. When that reorganization took place, and the Legislature prohibited the erection of any but brick houses within the city limits, except on low water lots, it was thought impossible that a fire so destructive as that of 1838 could again occur; yet the fire of 1861 was still more disastrous than that of 1838. The department was thought to be in a high state of efficiency; it was a subject of pride to all Charlestonians. The war came, to disorganize its ranks and disarrange its material. It embraced, before the commencement of hostilities in 1861, six hundred and forty men on roll in that year, composed of respectable young men, many of them of the best families of the city. Their pride in their numbers, discipline, and harmony formed a striking feature of this organization, and when the war broke out, acting in a double capacity—borrowing the language of the annual report of the chief of the department—

"they have thus performed a two-fold duty—one to the city as firemen, and the other to the State as soldiers." They still presented a highly efficient body at their annual parade on the 27th of April, 1866.

#### THE DESTRUCTIVENESS OF CHARLESTON FIRES.

We have alluded to the extent and frequency of the fires in Charleston. It is estimated by one largely engaged in the business of fire insurance that between the year 1807 or 1810 and 1861 thirteen large fires occurred, involving a loss of nearly thirteen millions of dollars, including the two great fires in 1838 and 1861, the former of which was attended by a loss of four and the latter of five millions in real estate exclusively.

Two questions arise here—could these losses have been prevented, and if not altogether prevented, could they have been lessened or repaired? Events furnish the reply. We must answer the last question first. The payment of the losses of the fire of 1838 would more than have repaid the premiums down to the fire of 1861; and the same must be said with regard to the fire of 1861, without reference to the frequent and extensive fires that took place in the long intermediate period. There are two aspects of this question: 1. The monopoly of insurance by the companies chartered in this State; 2. The neglect of the city to furnish an adequate supply of water. We have anticipated the reply to the first branch of the inquiry. The effect of various topographical surveys has been, that an ample supply of water could have been obtained from the Edisto at any time within the last half century. The people are partly to blame for this supineness. It is within our personal experience that they have been forty years discussing schemes for obtaining an adequate supply of water. Projects have been canvassed and dismissed, and still conflagrations have devoured time after time the fairest portions of their city. By the expenditure of a moderate sum compared with their losses, they could not only have obtained an ample supply of water, but derived a revenue, by a moderate outlay and

limited tax. The sum of two millions of dollars would not only have brought any needed quantity, but have furnished, as we have said, a source of revenue to the city. Instead of waterworks, like those of every other city with a large population, Charleston expended large sums in digging wells and tidal drains that afforded no adequate supply.

Another of the errors of legislation was the reduction of insurance capital. Instead of the Legislature strengthening, it weakened the security of the citizens. The principles of insurance seem at present better understood than formerly. At one period the Legislature had succeeded in driving out of the city both the Foreign and Northern Insurance Agencies by excessive taxation. It is only of late that they have again made their appearance among us. Insurance is now conducted on more scientific principles, and administered more skillfully than heretofore, enabling the companies to pay heavy fiscal burdens by the *diffusion*, instead of the *concentration*, of risks, the great secret of successful insurance.

Three of the local Insurance Companies of this city are still in existence, and taking risks, although with greatly reduced capitals, arising from the depreciation of their assets from the casualties of war, to wit:

The Insurance and Trust Company, J. H. Honour, President.

The Calhoun Insurance Company, chartered in 1861, S. Y. Tupper, President.

And the Elmore Insurance Company, W. M. Martin, President.

There are six or eight other Insurance Agencies representing English and Northern Companies. A larger amount of insurance capital is now represented in Charleston than at any former period. The insurance capital represented in this city is said to be about \$50,000,000.

## THE CHARLESTON PRESS—THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 15, 1866.

It is with no small degree of pride that I refer to the Charleston Press. I challenge comparison with the press of any other city. We have had occasionally scurrilous sheets, but they have formed exceptions to the general character of our public press. There have been periods of party strife and political intemperance, when the conductors of our papers have lost the balance of their minds, still there was a constant reference to that standard of manners, which is properly denominated the lesser system of morals, that our newspapers dare not violate without paying the penalty of loss of confidence and of general support. Our political journals have been universally referred to abroad as examples of dignity and models of decorum.

Our connection with the press dates back to the year 1817, when the author of these Reminiscences became the writing editor of the *Southern Patriot*. The recollections of Mr. A. E. Miller, the Nestor of the Southern Press, extend much further back, dating from the year 1794. We are indebted to that gentleman for the following historical sketch for all that relates as well to the Periodical as the Newspaper Press of this city. It will, no doubt be found accurate, as far as it goes, in all that regards as well the Newspaper as the Periodical Press. "In June, 1794, I was apprenticed to William E. Harrison, of the firm of Harrison & Bowman. They ..... were publishers of the Columbian Herald newspaper. At that period there was published in this city the State Gazette, by Timothy & Mason (Federal); the City Gazette, by Marckland & McIver (Republican), who afterwards sold out to Freneau & Paine, who subse-

quently sold out to Freneau & Williams. After that the *Columbian Herald* stopped.

1796. Harrison & Bowen started a weekly publication as a literary Magazine, entitled the "South Carolina Museum," which published critical observations on new books. In it was first published "The Monk," by Lewis. Also other works then imported by the Charleston Library Society. There was also published in it a story, by a young gentleman of Charleston named Doughty, entitled "Montaubon Castle," which gave notoriety to the publication; but it died for want of support in two or three years. About the same time Evans & Bounetheau published an evening paper; it was, however, only short lived.

Messrs. Cox & Shephard published "The Times," an evening paper, which existed for ten or twelve years, and was very popular in the city. It was supported by the members of the bar, for Langdon Cheves, Keating Lewis Simons, John S. Cogdell, and William Lowndes, did not refrain from publishing their legislative controversies in its columns.

Mr. S. C. Carpenter published the *Monthly Magazine*, printed by G. M. Bounetheau.

1803. The *Courier* was established by Loring Andrews, from Boston, bringing with him Mr. A. S. Willington as foreman. Mr. P. T. Merchant was the bookkeeper and managed the money department. Mr. S. C. Carpenter was a partner or editor. After the death of Mr. Andrews, Mr. Benjamin B. Smith, an eminent lawyer of the city, became connected with the publication of the paper for some time, when Mr. Carpenter left for Washington City, and Dr. F. Dalcho bought his share, and a new partnership commenced under the firm of Merchant, Willington & Co., (the late Edmund Morford forming a portion of the partnership, we believe, with Dr. Dalcho,) which continued for some time until after the war of 1812 was over, when Mr. Willington became sole proprietor and publisher in 1813, and continued until January, 1833, when Richard Yeadon and W. S. King became connected with him under the firm of A. S. Willington & Co.

1812. During the war of 1812 the Investigator was published by Dr. John Mackey. It was purchased by Isaac Harby, who changed its title to the *Southern Patriot*, and who associated with him in partnership Col. Robert Howard. It was about this period that a paper called the "Brazen Nose" was published by a Mr. Sargent, but of too puerile a character to merit further notice.

1817. Col. Robert Howard purchased Mr. Isaac Harby's share of the Patriot, and the connection of the writer of these Reminiscences dates from this year as writing editor.

The City Gazette was then published by E. S. Thomas, who had purchased it in 17— of Freneau & Williams. Mr. Thomas afterwards sold it to Skinner & Whilden, the former his foreman and the latter his book-keeper. It subsequently passed into a variety of hands, during which W. Gilmore Simms was the editor, where his noviciate as a writer commenced. It finally perished in the hands of a Mr. Toole.

1822. The Charleston Mercury was in this year founded by Edmund Morford. He subsequently sold a portion of it to Henry L. Pinckney, who afterwards became sole proprietor and editor, who sold to John A. Stuart, who edited the paper until 1846, when the management fell into the hands of J. M. Clapp. In 1847 the paper was purchased from one of the Trustees of Mr. Stuart by John E. Carew, who became sole proprietor and editor until about the year 1850, when John Heart was received into the firm, and it was conducted by Carew & Heart. Mr. Carew sold the paper in 1852 to Heart & Taber. On the death of the latter the paper passed into the hands of Heart & Rhett, who continued to conduct it, and it became the exclusive property of Barnwell Rhett, Jr., until the breaking out of hostilities. Its publication was suspended on the enemy's obtaining possession of the city, and has not since been renewed.

The Sun, a daily paper, was published by Dr. Sill, of Columbia, S. C., early in the year 1849. The editorial management was afterwards assumed by his son. It was short lived, probably two years. The establish-

ment was bought out in 1851, by B. C. Pressley, who changed its name to that of *The Standard*. It came successively under the management of B. C. Pressley, Dr. Skrine and Spratt and Britton, and was discontinued in 1858.

Among the weekly papers established about this time was the "Rose Bud," by Caroline Gilman. It was tastefully conducted, and was a great favorite with the public.

1823. The *Southern Patriot* was purchased by J. N. Cardozo on the first of January of this year, who continued as sole proprietor and editor until April, 1845, when it was sold to M. E. Munro, in whose hands it was discontinued about the year 1847 or 1848. The author of the *Reminiscences* then founded the *Evening News*, and in 1847 sold his interest to William Y. Paxton, who finally entered into partnership with John Cunningham, who became sole proprietor, J. N. Cardozo being associated in the editorial management until April 1861, when he left for Savannah, about which period the paper was discontinued.

The *Courier* was taken possession of shortly after the enemy entered the city, under military authority, on the 18th February, 1865. For about four months it was published by Whittemore & Johnson. At the expiration of that time Johnson withdrew, and under the firm of Whittemore & Co., the publication was continued until 20th November, when the firm of A. S. Willington & Co. was restored.

The only two daily papers published now in Charleston are the *Courier* and *Daily News* by Cathcart, McMillan & Morton.

The *Record*, a weekly sheet, is published by Bird & Mood.

#### PERIODICAL LITERATURE OF CHARLESTON.

It is not our purpose to place on record the various attempts that were made to establish monthly publications in Charleston, for many of them were ephemeral and abortive, but to select a few of the more promi-



ment as examples of successful enterprise in this direction. The most enduring were those of a religious character. The *Gospel Messenger*, edited by a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was commenced in 1824, was continued until 1853, making twenty-nine volumes. It was preceded by the *Southern Episcopalian*, edited by the Rev. C. P. Gadsden, and the Rev. J. H. Elliott, and continued eight years. This monthly periodical was succeeded by a weekly paper, under the same name, and by the same editors, until suspended by the bombardment of the city.

We can only enumerate some of the most important of the monthly periodicals.

*Southern Christian Advocate*, 1837, by the Rev. William Capers, D.D.

*Southern Baptist.*

*Southern Presbyterian.*

*Catholic Miscellany*, by Bishop England.

*Southern Agriculturist.*

*Medical Journal and Review*, under the editorship of Drs. Cain, Gaillard, Happoldt, and Bruns, continued for some years, and suspended in 1861.

*DeBow's Review*, published for several years, suspended during the war, and since resumed. It originally appeared in Charleston, and the editor, J. D. B. DeBow, evinced in the conduct of it great industry in the collection of statistics.

*Masonic Miscellany*, by Albert G. Mackey.

*Magnolia*, by D. K. Whitaker.

*Literary Gazette*, in 1862, by W. C. Richards.

*Southern Literary Gazette*, by the same.

*Russell's Magazine*, by John Russell.

In these magazines there was seen a variety of talent and versatility that only wanted encouragement to have flourished, but it has always been a reproach to those who had at command the sources of patronage, that while authors of only average ability were incited to write for Northern periodicals, those published at the South were neglected.

The *Southern Review* formed an epoch in our periodi-

cal literature. It was projected\* by Charlestonians, and continued for four years with unabated spirit and ability. Its most able contributors (Charlestonians) were Stephen Elliott, Hugh S. Legare, and Thomas S. Grimke. The former continued until his death to lend it the support of his distinguished scientific attainments, and the latter the grace, learning and eloquence of his multifarious acquisitions. A number of other gentlemen in various parts of the Union, eminent for learning and ability were among its contributors. It did not appear like a transient meteor on the literary horizon, but as a new planet in the stellar hemisphere of thought. After the death of Mr. Elliott, the editorship continued with Mr. Legare, until the latter was transferred to another department of intellectual effort, where his talents shone no less resplendently. The editorial management was then assumed by D. K. Whittaker, and subsequently by William Gilmore Simms; but the spirit that animated the Review (without intending any disparagement to these gentlemen) had departed. It lingered for a few months and departed the way of all Southern literature of a periodical character. It was the first attempt to found a quarterly publication on the plan of those which had obtained so much celebrity in Europe, in which the great channels of thought are occupied by the meditative minds that give direction to the general current of opinion.

\* Among the Reminiscences that merit record, may be stated the fact, that the author was one of the party that met at General Hayne's house, in Ladson's Court, among its earliest contributors, composed of the following gentlemen, not one of whom is alive, except himself—Stephen Elliott, Thomas S. Grimke, Hugh S. Legare, Robert Y. Hayne, and James Hamilton.

## THE BAR AND BENCH OF CHARLESTON.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 16, 1866.

Those who are able to carry their recollections back for half a century or sixty years, cannot fail to recall incidents that are suggestive of a number of interesting contrasts. Having lived in the midst of two generations, those contrasts are the most striking among such as have occupied conspicuous situations, or who are most frequently in the public eye. Advocates and Judges are among personages who enjoy this distinction. The author of these Reminiscences has been the contemporary of at least two generations. Mr. Fraser, in his interesting work entitled, "Reminiscences of Charleston," appears to confound those of the remote past, and those who were recently among us, but who are so no longer. He should, we think, have separated them. He speaks of John Julius Pringle and Hugh S. Legare, Keating Lewis Simons and Robert Y. Hayne, as if they were competitors on the same arena of conflict.

We have also heard their voices at the bar, at very remote periods. We have listened with delight to Jno. Julius Pringle, in his unravelling of the intricacies of the law; to the close logic of Thomas Parker, (the District Attorney in his day) and to the persuasive tones of Robert Y. Hayne; the rapid utterance of Langdon Cheves, and the brilliancy of William Crafts; the vehemence of Keating Lewis Simons, and the quaint humor of James L. Petigru;\* the learning and fluency of

\* This distinguished jurist and lawyer so recently among us, and so universally regretted, merits a more permanent commemoration than is afforded by the columns of a newspaper. With this view, we are induced to transfer to our Appendix a tribute to his memory, one of the finest specimens of pathetic eloquence, and discriminative eulogy, it has ever been our fortune to meet. See Appendix.

Thomas S. Grimke, and the discursive eloquence of Hugh S. Legare. In all these various phases of the oratory of the Bar, we have paid the homage of our admiration.

We have been so fortunate, indeed, as to have heard the maiden speech at our Bar, of William Lowndes, and the congratulations of his brethren of the Bar, at the promise it afforded of future distinction.

But it was as much for the *moral* as the *intellectual* qualities—the *manners* as the *mind* by which these men of two generations were characterized that constituted the peculiarity—the courtesy amidst the fiercest contentions of the forum—the avoidance of personalities during the heat and dust of battle—the courtesy of intercourse amidst the play of wit, and the provocations of satire—these were the characteristics by which the Bar of Charleston was distinguished at the period to which we refer.\* There may have been occasional examples of personal virulence and coarseness, but those were the rare exceptions.

The Bench took its hue and color from the Bar. A more dignified, impartial and courteous body of magistrates never graced a seat of justice than distinguished the judicial magistracy of South Carolina, at the time that its Bar was marked by every endowment that wins respect. It would appear as if the Bar had received its moral complexion from the Bench, so that

\* The Debating Societies of that day were nurseries of oratory. They reared a body of young men that greatly distinguished themselves, in Congress and the Legislature. We have been frequently present at the debates of the Philomathean Society, of which I was a member, having been introduced by the late Isaac Harby, when Langdon Cheves, William Lowndes, John and Christopher Gadsden, Charles Snowden, and Charles Fraser, were participators in the discussions, not one of whom are now living, and when Dr. Gallagher, and Dr. David Ramsay were present, lending to the debates the countenance of their presence, and occasionally giving expression, when requested, on the point under discussion. This was about the year 1803 or 1804.

The Society held their meetings, which took place every Saturday evening, at Furman's school room, in Stoll's alley. A theme was given out for debate, and two speakers were appointed in succession on each side, and another topic chosen, on which an original essay was to be written.

the Bar gave back to the Bench a portion of its own reflected lustre.

We have a distinct recollection among the Judges which have presided at the Charleston Court of Sessions and Common Pleas, of Judges Grimke, Waites, Bay, Johnson, Trezvant, Brevard among the Law Judges, and among the Chancellors, James, DeSaussure, Gaillard, David Johnson. Among the Attorney Generals, John Julius Pringle, Langdon Cheves, John S. Richardson, Robert Y. Hayne, J. L. Petigru, and Henry Bailey. Among the Recorders, of John Bee Holmes, Samuel Priolean, Jacob Axson, and William Drayton; and among the District Attorneys, of Thomas Parker, and John Gadsden.

## THE SPIRE OF ST. MICHAEL'S AND THE BELLS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 19, 1866.

It is well known that the enemy made several unsuccessful attempts to strike with their shells the spire of St. Michael's Church. Being an elevated object, it was a constant mark for them. It escaped the slightest injury, although several of their shells struck the body of the church. The danger to which the Bells were exposed, induced their removal to Columbia, whence they have been transferred to England, to be re-cast, from serious damage they have received. There are peculiar associations connected with these Bells, which date from our earliest years. Their absence on our return to the city, filled us with more melancholy emotions than almost any connected with this war. From our boyhood we had been familiar with their tones. At each recurring period of our national anniversary, we have been accustomed to hear their chimes as they fall upon the ear, in that melodious symphony that is so captivating when touched by the hand of skill. The Bells of St. Michael seemed to us a part of the venerable structure itself. It appeared to us that they had been so consecrated to pious uses, from a period almost beyond calculation. They were certainly older than our independence. They had often preluded the rejoicings attendant on the birth of a British prince almost coeval with the Brunswick dynasty, as they have sounded the knell of many a departed spirit, of whose requiem they have tolled the last note.

The feeling was irrepressibly melancholy, when finding ourselves within the sound of their chimes, the Bells of St. Michael gave forth no sound. Our first question would have been, who has done this, if we had

not recollected that war had visited our venerable city—that but for that scourge, those ancient Bells would have occupied their former position, and when we remembered that during all the storms of the revolution, and amidst its most deadly conflicts, the Bells of St. Michael were unharmed, such was the feeling of veneration of the enemy of that day, for the ancient pile. The ravage of fields, the devastation of cities, the destruction of records, the mutilation of muniments, are visitations of sufficient severity, but in the mere wantonness of a spirit of mischief, and from the sole pleasure of destroying, to aim at the destruction of a spire of antique construction, like St. Michael's, would be beyond belief, if the fact were not so recent as to be without denial.

## THE HOTELS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 21, 1866.

The Hotels of a city are intimately connected with its commercial prosperity. Their number and appointments sometimes indicate the progress of luxury and opulence in a more marked degree than its private residences, especially at the centres of trade. Paris or London has the most commodious Hotels in Europe, from the fact that they are points of superior attraction owing to a variety of causes, the chief of which is that they are respectively the seats of government of the States of which they are the political metropolis. New York owes the number and celebrity of her hotels to the fact of her being the commercial and financial centre of the United States.

Charleston, from her geographical position ought to stand in the same relation to the South generally, that New York bears to the country collectively, which they would do if a wise policy were pursued by our railroad companies in relation to charges for freight and travelling—travellers would be attracted to this point, if besides the inducement of cheapness and variety of stocks, the additional inducement was presented of moderate rates of freight and passage. Charleston has not a greater number of hotels than she had before the war. She, in this respect, is not progressive, allowance being made for the interruption of business from that event. Since the resumption of peace our hotels have not done a business commensurate with the advantages of our city for trade. We are not personally acquainted with any of their arrangements except the Charleston, which we have



found unexceptionable in every respect. The Mills House has changed hands, and great improvements have been made, and is now equal to any Hotel in the country. These improvements are owing to the enterprise of a citizen whose liberal spirit has largely contributed to the improvement of Charleston. The proprietor of the Pavilion appears to be making efforts to obtain that patronage to which he is entitled as an experienced hotel keeper. The Victoria and Commercial House have re-opened under favorable auspices. The Planter's Hotel is undergoing repair.

## THE CHARLESTON BANKS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 23, 1866.

Banking in the City of Charleston has always *followed* and rarely *preceded* the course and currents of business. From the establishment of the State government in 1792, for twenty years, there had been but two applications for charters to the legislature, *i. e.*: those of the South Carolina and State Banks. Their combined capitals amounted to only \$2,000,000 for a number of years. The former was chartered in 1801, and the latter the year after. The commerce of Charleston was then extremely limited. With the expansion of trade, was the extension of banking facilities. The staple products of Carolina consisted of tobacco and indigo. So essential was the former to the commercial prosperity of the city, that the legislature sedulously guarded the interests of the tobacco planter by the erection of extensive warehouses for its storage and *inspection*, in what was then deemed the suburbs of Charleston.

In the course of a few years, the cultivation of tobacco became more productive on the more fertile and cheaper lands of the West, and indigo became a plant more congenial to the people of British India. South Carolina lost both her tobacco and indigo trade about the same time. The extensive tobacco warehouses of Charleston went to decay, and of which there is not now a vestige to be seen. Cotton had begun to supersede every other agricultural staple of the South. With the progressive demand for bank capital to circulate so costly a product, came increasing applications to the legislature for charters. The Union Bank was chartered in 1810, and the Planters and Mechanics Bank in 1811. The bank capital of Charleston was thus.

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only doubled in ten years, showing its slow increase. None of them had been chartered with a larger capital than \$1,000,000, except the Bank of Charleston, (incorporated in December, 1834) which had been incorporated with a capital of \$2,000,000, with the privilege of increasing it to \$4,000,000, which caused great dissatisfaction at the time and since.

The Bank of the State of South Carolina was established in 1812. It was not the offspring of commercial necessity, for we were then at war. It was created as a financial instrument, and not a commercial institution—as an aid to the planting interest, which it continued to be for many years. Mr. Stephen Elliott, one of the chief promoters, if not the original projector of the institution, entertained the most unsound notions on the subject of banking. He conceived that the loans to planters were the most safe of all investments by banks, whereas, they are the most insecure, for the essential principle of all safe and sound banking consists of advances to merchants, on short dated paper, not renewable, which enables banks to effect a rapid conversion of their assets; while planters are not able to repay their loans from the slowness of their returns being annual. It is now universally admitted that non-renewals and ninety days paper are among the only safe principles of banking.

Another of Mr. Elliott's unsafe, if not dangerous theories of banking, was that banks were not on views of expediency obliged to redeem their notes in specie, or that this was essential to preserve their value on a level with that of coin. The Bank of the State of South Carolina, in common with the Banks of Charleston, was at that period much pressed by the Bank of the United States for the payment in specie of its balances. The clamor against the latter institution was incessant.

These doctrines were freely broached by Mr. Elliott in his annual report of 1819, to the legislature, as President of the Bank. To the writer of the Reminiscences, who had just entered on the duties of editor of

the *Southern Patriot*, these doctrines seemed so repugnant to all sound principle, and so destructive of public credit, that he opposed their adoption by that body, and as constituting any part of the administration of the bank. Judge Colcock, who succeeded Mr. Elliott as President, was not disposed to adopt his principles to but a limited extent. The inordinate extension of credit to planters was subjected to limitation, and the institution became more of a *commercial*, and less of an *agricultural* bank.

The principle of unlimited liability never prevailed in this State. From the earliest period, the stockholder was liable to only twice the amount of his subscription.

Mr. Elliott was a man of unquestionable learning and ability. There were few subjects handled by him on which he did not shed light, and his celebrated report of 1819 gave unquestionable evidence of his lucid intellect; but on the subject of banking his mind appeared to labor, at this time, under hallucination.

The Union Bank was incorporated in 1810. The Planters and Mechanics Bank in 1811. The Bank of the State was established in 1812. The Bank of Charleston was incorporated in 1834. The Farmers and Exchange Bank, and the Peoples Bank in 1852. It will thus be seen what a slow increase took place in our bank capital between the years 1810-11 and 1834, a period of upwards of twenty years, and how rapid was the increase afterwards. When the Bank of Charleston was chartered, we had just entered on the era of speculation that led finally to the revulsion of 1836-7. I have a vivid recollection of the excitement produced when the books were opened for subscription to the stock of that bank—when all classes and conditions of men appear to have been seized with the mania of speculation and an anxious desire to possess Charleston Bank stock.

It should, however, be stated that the non-renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States in 1832 made room for additional capital in banking, and which

partly accounts for the increase of banking capital in 1834, by chartering the Bank of Charleston in that year.

I would divide the history of our banks into two periods—before and subsequent to the war of 1812. The banking capital of Charleston, as we have seen, was quite limited before the second of those periods. It did not exceed four millions of dollars. It was fully equal to the requirements of our commerce. The addition made to it by the establishment of the Bank of the State, was adventitious, and not essential to the business of Charleston, for, we repeat, we were then at war. The increase of banking facilities on the return of peace in 1815 was essential to bring to market a largely increasing crop of cotton, and to which is to be added the acquisition of the jobbing trade, a new branch of business in Charleston. But for the additions made to bank capital, and facilities between the two periods indicated, our jobbing merchants could as a body have had no existence. Those splendid structures, the main seat of that business, would not have been built. It was a trade founded altogether on credit. The jobber diffused his credit on every side. He multiplied his agencies all over the interior. The banks in the city enabled him to convert the note given him by the country storekeeper into active capital, instead of letting it lie in his desk as unproductive means. There was the cotton close at hand, which by a new transformation was rapidly converted into excheange at New York, which went to pay for our commercial indebtedness in Europe. Cotton was therefore the basis of the trade both ways.

The success of the attempt now making to revive that trade will depend on three circumstances: 1. The inducements presented to the country merchant to visit our seaports on the Atlantic to obtain his supplies in the abundance, variety, and cheapness of the stocks. 2. In the rates of freight on our railroads. 3. In the banking facilities afforded our jobbing merchants. Charleston and Savannah will, in the ensuing fall, be in

strenuous competition for this trade, and it will be owing to the relative difference in the sum of these three circumstances which shall enjoy the largest share of it. But since the war a new element, or rather the new application of an old principle has been introduced into our system of banking. A more entire revolution has taken place than has ever before occurred, in which bank credit still plays an important part. The national banks have imparted a new phase to banking. The State bank system is, of course, at an end. The doctrine of consolidation has reached our banking, in common with our political and commercial system. The tendency on every side is to the concentration of power, fiscal and national.

#### THE SAVINGS' BANKS.

Charleston has two Savings' Banks. The Charleston Savings' Institution was chartered in December, 1843, under the name of the Provident Institution for Savings in the City of Charleston. The charter was renewed December, 1856, when the name was changed to the *Charleston Savings Institution*. Its total assets amount to \$2,605,634.27, of which one-half is supposed to be good. The sum due depositors amounts to.....\$2,371,041 51

Surplus.....\$234,592 76

The following extract is made from the last annual report of the Trustees :

"In common with the other corporations of the State, this Institution has suffered much by the depreciation in value of many of its assets, and the total loss of others. The war found it in a condition of unprecedented prosperity, exhibiting a success of which all connected with its management, felt justly proud. All that prudent foresight and practical wisdom could suggest was done, to make it a safe depository for the earnings of the workingman. But circumstances beyond the control of human foresight or wisdom, com-

pel the winding up of its affairs at as early a date as is compatible with the interests of all concerned.

The securities held by the Institution, and considered good will, if kept until they can be sold at their *par value*, probably realize enough to pay the depositors *fifty per centum* of their deposits and accumulated interest on the same."

The other Savings Bank was chartered under the name of the Palmetto Savings Institution, and its title changed in December, 1857, to the Palmetto Savings Bank. It has made thirteen dividends to October 8, 1864, and a surplus dividend of 20 per cent.

#### CHARLESTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

The Charleston Gas Light Company was chartered in 1847, with a capital of \$200,000, and up to 1858 had increased the same to \$500,000. Early in that year it amalgamated with the Carolina Gas Company, which had a capital of \$195,150. This combined capital has been, at different times, increased up to \$766,600.

Up to the late war this company was esteemed very successful, and its stock looked upon as one of our best securities. In common with all similar corporations South, it has suffered, but peculiarly from the great fire of 1861, and the heavy bombardment of three years to which the city was subjected. It is still successfully, however, under way, and with bright prospects again.

#### BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

Among the earliest of these Associations that called the Home Loan and Building Association commenced operations February 10, 1860.

Its working answered every purpose of its establishment. A number of individuals were enabled to erect comfortable residences. It became in its effects a Savings Institution. It taught habits of economy, and if the war had not interrupted its operations it would have wound up at the time designated. Thirty-two installments had been paid in, and notwithstanding un-

toward circumstances it came out of the war with its assets over their par value.

The Relief Loan Association commenced operations in May, 1860, and has been equally successful. It also came out of the war with its assets over their par value.

There have been quite a number of similar institutions, but their assets not being so well invested as the two above mentioned, they are winding up their affairs.



## CHARLESTON LIBRARIES.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 25, 1866.

### CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY.

The following account of the Charleston Library Society is abridged from the "Manual of Public Libraries in the United States, by Chas. C. Jewett, Librarian of the Smithsonian Institution."

The Charleston Library Society was founded in 1748. On the 15th of January, 1778, it was nearly destroyed by fire, only one hundred and eighty-five volumes out of 5,000 or 6,000 being saved. The average annual increase has been about two hundred volumes, besides pamphlets. Average annual expenditure about \$2,500. A catalogue of the books belonging to the Charleston Library Society, published by the order of the Society, containing 375 pages, 8 vo., was printed in Charleston, in 1826. A volume of the catalogue, containing books purchased since 1828, in 144 pages, 8 vo., was printed in Charleston, in 1845. A list of books obtained by the Charleston Library Society since the publication of the second volume of the catalogue of books, being the first supplement to the same, prepared by the librarian, and printed by order of the Society, was published in 1847, at Charleston. It contains 23 pages, 8 vo. Several catalogues were printed before the destruction of the first library, in 1790, in 1802, in 1806, and in 1811, when the Library contained 7,000 volumes. Some supplementary pages were printed in 1816 and 1818. The number of books possessed by the Library is supposed to be from 25,000 to 33,000, and in 1854, another supplement containing 62 pages, 8 vo., was published in Charleston.

During the late war, the most valuable portion of

the property of this Society was removed to Columbia, S. C., and deposited in the South Carolina College, where it still remains, having fortunately escaped damage during the reign of terror which prevailed in that ill-fated city. These volumes, about 16,000, will be brought to Charleston as soon as the Society is able to undertake their removal.

About 4,500 volumes remained in the Society's Hall, at the corner of Broad and Church streets, eighty-six of which were stolen during the occupation of the city by the Federal forces in 1865.

#### APPRENTICES LIBRARY SOCIETY.

The *Apprentices Library Society* was organized on the 28th of May, 1824, by electing Dr. Joseph Johnson as President. At the opening, the Library consisted of fifteen hundred volumes, principally the gift of individuals. The Society purchased a site and erected a hall on Meeting street, which was destroyed by fire in December, 1861, with all their books, maps, portraits, busts, &c. They retain possession of the lot on which their hall stood, which is probably worth from six to eight thousand dollars. It is the wish of some to sell the land and apply the proceeds to revive the institution. The proceeds of the policy of insurance paid off the incumbrance on the lot.

#### COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON LIBRARY.

The College of Charleston Library consists of between five and six thousand volumes, of which Dr. L. A. Frampton made a present to the city, for the use of the College of Charleston in 1853, of about 2000 books, consisting principally of literary and scientific works in various languages.

The Legislature made an appropriation of \$9,000 for the erection of a suitable building to receive the very liberal donation of Dr. Frampton, now forming a neat and substantial building on a pleasant site on the College campus. One of the conditions of the bequest of Dr. Frampton was that the public should have access

to the library, but that the privilege of borrowing the books should be confined to the students and faculty of the College.

A subsequent bequest of Hon. Mitchell King consisted of about 2,500 costly volumes, principally in the classical and foreign languages.

#### LIBRARY OF MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Library of the Medical Society of Charleston originally contained 2450 volumes. A catalogue was printed in 1834, and another, containing forty pages 8 vo., in 1842. About \$120 dollars before the war was yearly expended for books. About 350 volumes are annually lent out, and about 250 persons each year consult the library without taking away books. It is impossible to ascertain the number of books of which the library consists, no catalogue having been taken for some years. The society lost several of their books during the war, but how many is not known. There is at present no librarian.

#### MUSEUM OF THE CHARLESTON COLLEGE.

The establishment of a Museum of Natural History at the College of Charleston was first suggested by Professor L. Agassiz, in 1850. The Trustees of the College elected Francis S. Holmes Curator of the new Museum on the 25th of November, 1850, and on the 2d of December following he was appointed to the professorship's chair of Geology and Palæontology. The Rev. Dr. John Bachman was, at that time, the professor of Natural History.

The remains of the old Museum which belonged to the "Charleston Literary and Philosophical Society," and which had been deposited in the Medical College in Queen street, were turned over by the Trustees of that institution to the College of Charleston, as the Literary and Philosophical Society was no longer in existence. The collection consisted principally of minerals and a few mounted birds and quadrupeds; but these latter were so infested by insects that only a small number

could be retained. These, with valuable cabinets of fossils, shells, birds, and quadrupeds, presented by Professor Holmes, Professor Tnomey (at that time the geological surveyor of South Carolina), Rev. Dr. Bachman, and Mr. John Audubon, formed the nucleus of the present museum. In November, 1851, it was opened to the public, on which occasion Professor Louis Agassiz, the eminent naturalist, delivered an address in the College Chapel to a large and intelligent audience. The Rev. Dr. Bachman opened and closed the services with prayer. Through the enlightened liberality of the city council Professor Holmes was furnished with an able Taxidermist, for preparing and mounting the birds and other animals, and a quarterly appropriation made for the current expenses of the museum.

In 1861, James Hamilton Conper, Esq., an accomplished and scientific citizen of Saint Simons' Island, Georgia, presented his entire cabinet of Conchology and Palæontology. This munificent contribution added greatly to the interest of these special departments, and stimulated many citizens to contribute rare specimens from their private cabinets. About this time the Misses Annelly, of Charleston, presented a rich collection of shells to the Museum.

During the war about two hundred boxes were packed with the most valuable part of the collection, and sent into the interior for safety. Among these were the originals of the figures illustrating Audubon and Bachman's work on the "Quadrupeds of North America," which had been liberally presented by these naturalists to the Museum.

In 1865, just after the surrender of Generals Lee and Johnson, when the whole country was in a distracted condition, incendiary negroes, instigated by lawless white men, who were overrunning the country, set fire to the building containing Professor Holmes' library of about 3,000 valuable and rare books in Natural History, and about four or five boxes of valuable specimens, with the books and records of the museum, and the whole was destroyed. Fortunately the other cases escaped, being stored in a barn some distance off.

They have been safely removed back to the city, and occupy the shelves from which they had been taken.

This Museum is now in a prosperous condition, and, we believe, the only institution of the kind in the Southern States; it occupies six large rooms on the second floor of the building, and contains many unique and interesting specimens. One of the main objects is to illustrate the Natural History of the Southern States, and stimulate scientific studies.

The late Hon. Mitchell King, who was President of the Board of Trustees, was a warm friend and supporter of the Museum, and contributed greatly to its establishment.

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## THE CHARLESTON RAILROADS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 27, 1866.

Our railroad system has been a gradual accretion from a small commencement. It has not sprung into existence with all those applications of capital and appliances of science and skill which have marked the more recent works of this character. It had its source simply in the attempt to remedy a defect of nature. The South Carolina Railroad had its origin in the fact that the occasionally low state of the Savannah river prevented the great staple of the South from reaching the Charleston market at reasonable periods. One of the earliest projectors of this road was Alexander Black, a man of indomitable energy and perseverance, who had emigrated from Ireland young, self-educated, and self-reliant, with strong, practical sense. This early effort to bring Charleston into connection with the interior was made by constructing an experimental road of only one hundred and fifty feet in extent, by the use of horse power, running diagonally, on the ground now occupied by Mr. Memminger's house in Wentworth street.

Mr. Black was aided by Tristram Tupper, a man of equal energy of purpose, and by combined exertions completed a road one hundred and thirty-six miles in length, the longest then in existence. When it is recollected that steam power applied to railroads was then in its infancy, this is one of the most striking examples of successful enterprise on record. It was completed in October, 1833, having been commenced in 1828. At the commencement of the enterprise the design was to plank the road and use horse-power. Before it was completed the application of steam to railroads was discovered, and thus rendered railroads more

effective than was ever imagined at the inception of the idea of Railroads as a means of transportation.

#### THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

It is not, perhaps, generally known, that the first extensive Railroad built in this country was the one which connects Charleston and Hamburg.

The enterprise of our Charleston merchants set in motion the iron horse which now travels his useful and unremitting course over the thousands of Railroads which cover this country like a net work.

The South Carolina Canal and Railroad Company was chartered in 1827, and the work commenced in this city in 1831. It was finished to Hamburg in 1833. The first locomotive made in England for this road, was soon succeeded by the "Miller," of American construction, bearing the name of a citizen of Charleston. In 1835, the first project for connecting this city with the Ohio river was abandoned, because a continuous charter through all the intermediate States could not be obtained.

In 1842, the branch from Branchville to Columbia, sixty-eight miles, was completed, and in 1848, the Camden Branch, thirty-seven miles, was finished.

This road, with its connections by means of the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, and the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, has done much towards developing the internal resources of this and neighboring States. In times past, the flour, wheat, corn, turpentine and cotton, within the reach of the South Carolina Railroad and its connections, were brought to Charleston, thence to be exported to Northern or foreign markets. In exchange for these productions, our merchants did a thriving business in supplying the interior of this State, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, and even Mississippi.

As the different connecting Railroads were opened, especially the Georgia Railroad and its branches, the business of the South Carolina Railroad increased, and the receipts which in 1834, only amounted to \$166,000, in ten years reached \$533,000, and continued to increase

in amount until the breaking out of the late war. Through freights as well as local rates were then apportioned with liberality and judgment. Just after the close of the war, when the South Carolina Railroad found themselves greatly embarrassed for want of money wherewith to repair the serious injuries inflicted by the Federal troops, and the folly of our own generals, our merchants bore patiently the high charges for freights on this Road. The Company could not borrow money, and the Road had to pay for its repairs out of its earnings. This state of things has passed away, the Road has been put in complete running order to Columbia and Augusta.

Great credit is due to the managers of this Road, for the energy displayed in rebuilding the tracks on both branches, together with the extensive bridges which had been destroyed by military orders from both parties in the recent revolution and war. We may now look with confidence for a gradual reduction of freights, whereby the trade and commerce of Charleston may be restored, and the receipts of the Company, at the same time, be so greatly increased as to warrant further improvements.

#### THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILROAD.

The North-Eastern Railroad, although not so far a profitable investment for the stockholders, is an important connection in the great chain of travel along the seaboard. Bringing to Charleston the valuable products of the rich Pee Dee valley, and affording the nearest mail and passenger route to the North, this enterprise must, in time, prove exceedingly profitable. The various interests which are dependent for their proper development upon this road, render its prospects and management matters of serious consideration to the people of Charleston. Commencing with the coal fields of North Carolina, we must, at once perceive how important to this city it is, that this useful mineral fuel, which lies in abundance in our sister State, should be transported over the Coal Fields Railroad to Cheraw,



thence by the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad to Florence, and thence by the North-Eastern Railroad to Charleston.

Next is the junction of this road with the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad at Florence, giving the shortest route from Charleston to New York, and affording to the citizens of lower Georgia, by way of the Savannah Railroad, and of Florida, by the steamers connecting with Charleston, the advantages of cheap and rapid travel to the northern cities.

At the same point, Florence, the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad pours into the North-Eastern cars the valuable productions of the Pee Dee valley. The seaport of Georgetown must also, at an early day, connect with this road by a short line, which has been in agitation for some time past.

Looking now to the management of the road we find much to admire.

Chartered in 1851, the North-Eastern Railroad had to contend with many difficulties and obstacles from its inception. The bridge over the Santee is a monument to the energy of the officers of the Company, and to the genius of the inventor, Dr. Potts. This remarkable structure received serious injury during the war, having lost all the wood work by the folly of our own military leaders, and one of the iron cylindrical piers by the action of the Union gun boats. The whole is now completely restored. Under the conduct of Presidents Huger, McKay, MacFarlan, and its present head, Mr. A. F. Ravenel, assisted by that able and indefatigable superintendent, Mr. S. S. Solomons, this road has always been managed with remarkable success. The regularity with which the trains were run—the almost entire exemption from accidents, and the quantity of work accomplished—speak well for the energy and ability of its managers. We trust the revival of trade will soon enable this company to recover from its losses, and compensate its stockholders for their patience and confidence in its ultimate success.

## THE CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH RAILROAD.

The Charleston and Savannah Railroad Company was chartered by the State of South Carolina in December, 1853, and by Georgia, in February, 1854. The projectors of this enterprise entertained high hopes of its profitable character, and beneficial influence upon the trade and travel of both cities. This short line of one hundred miles would complete the sea-board route between New York and the Gulf; would open a lucrative business with South-western Georgia, Florida and Alabama; would greatly increase the commercial operations between Charleston and Savannah, and would derive much profit from the local trade and travel of the wealthy country through which it passed. In view of the great political crisis then looming up in the distance, it was thought important to form a close connection between States having common interests and institutions. The wisdom of this view was fully proven during our recent troubles, when this Road did such good service in conveying troops and munitions of war, as well as various products and merchandise, between the two cities, and the various military posts from the Ashley to the Savannah rivers.

The first President was Thos. F. Drayton. On the 29th March, 1858, the first locomotive on this Road, the "Ashley," commenced work in conveying rails and cross ties to the track layers. Drane & Singletary, soon after that time, commenced operations as contractors, and soon showed such energy and rapidity of movement, as to astonish our usually slow people. On the 15th of November, 1858, freight and passenger trains ran to the Edisto river, and on the 20th of November, 1860, the entire Road was completed. On the 29th of March, 1858, the first rail was laid, and on the 26th May, 1860, the last rail was put in position. Just a month before the Ordinance of Secession was issued, this Road, destined to play so important a part in the revolution, was completed. A few months afterwards, the appearance of the Federal fleet on our coast brought into play all the energy of the newly elected President, W. J. Magrath, and taxed to the utmost the carrying

capacity of the road. In 1862, Mr. B. D. Hasell became President, and the business of the road continued to improve and yielded a net income of nearly \$160,000. The year 1863, under the management of Mr. R. L. Singletary, the present President, the net income reached \$393,000. The want of a bridge across the Ashley river, which had been severely felt by the managers for years past, prevented the road from doing even a larger business. But this favorable state of things was soon to be changed by the military reverses of the South. In December, 1864, General Sherman's army approached Savannah. The Federals at Hilton Head soon took up a position near the line of the road, and from that time the trains were run at the imminent risk of life and property. Disaster followed disaster, until finally the failure of our cause involved this road in a common ruin.

The direction of the road are, however, using every exertion to recover from the present depressed condition. The road has been rebuilt to Saltkebatehie, about half the entire length of the line, and we may hope by next fall to see the entire line in operation. The rich lands through which the road passes are now either deserted, or at best but partially cultivated. But the common sense of the nation must in time be felt, and this valuable portion of our State must share in the return of former prosperity and wealth.

## CHARITABLE SOCIETIES IN CHARLESTON.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, June 29, 1866.

The number of Benevolent Institutions in this city is one of its most remarkable features. Not only Scotch, English, Irish, German and French emigrants have formed themselves, at an early period of her history, into associations for the relief and support of their countrymen when landed on our shores, in a destitute condition, but native Charlestonians formed themselves, in almost the infancy of the city, into Clubs for social and benevolent purposes, and these Clubs gradually expanded themselves into Societies, all of whom became organized, having hundreds of members, and built themselves commodious and elegant halls. The origin of the South Carolina Society was the *Two Bit Club*, which assembled at a building called the *Old Corner*, at the north-east corner of Church and Broad streets.

Our space will not enable us to enumerate all, or even the greater number of these Charitable Institutions, but only those of greatest antiquity.

There was for some time a controversy between some of the Societies as to which was of earliest formation, and entitled to precedence at processions. The right was finally awarded the St. Andrew's Society. The following are the dates of their formation without regard to the dates of incorporation. We have enumerated those of highest antiquity, to avoid unnecessary detail. It is well known that the Hibernian, German Friendly, St. Patrick, Hebrew Benevolent, Societie Française, are as liberal and humane in the dis-

pensation of their charities as any of the older Societies. The dates of their formation are as follows:

*St. Andrew* in 1731.

*St. George* in 1753.

*South Carolina*, in 1737. It celebrated its centennial anniversary in 1837.

*Fellowship*, in 1762. It celebrated its centennial anniversary in 1862.

The number of members of the South Carolina has generally been between two and three hundred, and of the Fellowship, the two most numerous of the Benevolent Societies, between one and two hundred. The funds of all these institutions have been devoted since their organization to the maintenance of the destitute widows and children of their members, and the education of the latter. The war has made sad havoc with these funds from what has proved to be unproductive investments in Confederate and bank stocks.

#### THE PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES—THE CINCINNATI.

This Society was formed by the surviving officers of the American army, at the close of the Revolution, in 1783. There were State Societies in each of the thirteen old States, and a General Society composed of delegates from these. General Washington was the first President General, elected in 1784. General C. C. Pinckney of South Carolina was the third. The State Society of South Carolina was founded in 1783, Gen. Wm. Moultrie being the first President. It consists of the descendants of the founders. It has charity for its object, and that of this State has contributed to the relief of many worthy objects. The Society numbers in this State between twenty-five and thirty.\*

The Society has a beautiful jewel. That in the custody of the President General is composed of diamonds, and was presented to General Washington by the sailors of the fleet of Count DeGrasse. It is said to be worth

\* Only the lineal descendants are entitled to membership, but there is a proposition now under consideration, to admit collateral, where there is a failure of lineal descendants.

\$10,000. This is now in possession of Gov. Fish, of N. Y., the present President General.

#### AMERICAN REVOLUTION SOCIETY AND SEVENTY-SIX ASSOCIATION.

It was about the year 1790, that the American Revolution Society was founded, principally by civilians, as it would appear, in opposition to the Cincinnati Society, which being formed exclusively of the officers of the Revolution, led to considerable jealousy. It continued to be the only Patriotic Association in the city, besides the Society of Cincinnati. About the year 1812, a Society was formed called the Whig Association, which was of short duration. The party disputes which grew out of the war of 1812, gave great bitterness to the political controversies of that period. The Seventy-Six Association was the result of an amalgamation of the American Revolution Society and the Whig Association, or to speak with more precision, what remained of the Whig Association and the American Revolution Society was merged into the Seventy-Six Association. Its first anniversary was celebrated by the appointment of Judge Wm. Johnson as orator, who appeared in St. Phillip's Church, on the occasion, in a full suit of homespun. The approaching anniversary of Independence will, therefore, be its 53rd anniversary. Its orators have embraced some of the distinguished names in the annals of Charleston oratory, such as Langdon Cheves, Robert Y. Hayne, &c. Thos. Y. Simons is the present President.

#### THE MASONIC SOCIETIES.

The Masons are too important a body to be overlooked. We can afford, however, in a work like this, but the briefest notice. "Mackey's History of Free Masonry in South Carolina," affords the most complete view of the successive changes in the history of the order from the earliest period. The first Lodge of Free Masons in Charleston was opened in 1736. Dis-

cord broke out among the Masons in this State, which continued for several years. The quarrel was reconciled in 1817, by the union between the Grand Lodge of Ancient or York Masons with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. The union has been productive of benefit, and the separate Lodges have acted in such harmony as to ensure the objects for which they have been organized.

## MEDICAL SOCIETY AND MEDICAL COLLEGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, July 1, 1866.

The Medical Society of South Carolina was incorporated in the year 1791. On July 9th, 1792, a Fee Bill was adopted by the Society, which was signed by the following members: Robert Wilson, Isaac Chandler, James Lynah, Peter Fayssoux. Alexander Baron, E. Poinsett, Tucker Harris, David Ramsay, George Logan, George Carter, George Keisselback, William Handy, Charles F. Bartlett, Mathias Steupies, Christian Hahubaum, George F. Hahnbaum, Thos. Marshall, Henry Collins Flagg, Wm. Read, Wm. Smith Stevens, Saml. Wilson, Joseph H. Ramsay, John Cracker, Phillip Moser, Peter Joseph More, Thos. H. McCalla, James Moultrie, Wm. Lehre, Charles L. J. Possard, Nathan Brownson, John Crawford, John E. Poyas, Mathew Irvine—probably comprising all the members of the Society at that time.

The Medical College of South Carolina was incorporated in the year 1823, and went into successful operation in November, 1824—opening with a class of fifty-four students, of which number four graduated in the month of March ensuing, viz: E. Geddings, S. C., — Garvin, Ga., — Webb, S. C., — Felder, S. C. Two of this number, the first and second, have long been professors.

The origin of the College was as follows: Dr. S. H. Dickson, James Ramsay, and H. R. Frost had, during the two preceding years, delivered private courses of lectures to a few students, at the Charleston Alms House. Encouraged by their success they were induced to make application to the Medical Society of South Carolina to use its influence in organizing a Medical College in Charleston. The application was



not encouraged, but was finally agreed to on condition that the Society should incur no responsibility beyond that of acting as a board of Trustees. With this understanding a charter was applied for and received, the Medical Society of South Carolina being elected a Board of Trustees. A temporary wooden building was erected on land granted by the city, at the expense of the faculty, and in a similar way all the necessary appliances were furnished. The Medical Society, as authorized by the charter, proceeded to fill the respective chairs as follows; Anatomy, John Edwards Holbrook; Surgery, James Ramsay; Institutes and Practice of Medicine, Saml. Henry Dickson; Materia Medica, Henry Rutledge Frost; Obstetrics, Thos. G. Prioleau; Chemistry, Edmund Ravenel. E. Geddings, then an undergraduate, performed the duties of Demonstrator of Anatomy during the first session, and at the end of the course was elected to that office.

The College prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations of its founders, and encouraged by this success, application was made to the City, and to the Legislature for such aid as might be necessary to erect a suitable building, provide an Anatomical Museum, and Chemical apparatus. The city promptly responded by, not only a grant of land on which to erect the building, but also by an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars, on condition that the Faculty would obligate themselves to furnish gratuitous professional attendance on the Charleston Alms House and the Marine Hospital, for a period of twenty years. The State, with commensurate liberality, responded by an appropriation of ten thousand dollars. Out of these appropriations the edifice now existing was erected, and many of the present appliances were furnished. But the munificence of the State did not stop here. On two subsequent occasions she responded to the calls of the Faculty—once by an appropriation of nine thousand, and again by one of twenty thousand dollars. This last appropriation was made under the new organization to be next mentioned. The faculty first occupied the new edifice in the Autumn of 1826.

In 1831 James Ramsay resigned the chair of Surgery, and the faculty, in seeking a suitable successor, nominated E. Geddings unanimously to the Medical Society, then the Board of Trustees. He had for some years successfully conducted a private Anatomical and Surgical school. In opposition to this unanimous recommendation of the faculty, the Medical Society elected John Wagner to the chair of Surgery. This created so much discontent, that S. H. Dickson resigned the chair of Institutes and Practice, and T. Y. Simons was elected in his place. At the end of the session all the remaining members of the old faculty resigned, and application was made to the next session of the Legislature for the charter of a new College, which was granted under the name of the "Medical College of the State of South Carolina." This went into operation in 1832, but as the court decided that the old charter bound the College property, the Medical Society proceeded to fill the vacant chairs, and the faculty, under the new organization, were under the necessity of securing accommodation elsewhere, which they did by purchase of the old theatre, situated at the intersection of Broad and New streets. There were, consequently, two Colleges in operation. But this condition of things did not long continue; the Society's College finally concluding to cease operations, and to restore the original property to the corporation of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina.

This latter College, as previously intimated, was incorporated in 1832, with a Board of Trustees composed of eleven non-professional members, with a concurrent vote on the part of the faculty. The following professors were elected to the respective chairs, viz: Practice of Medicine, S. H. Dickson; Materia Medica, H. R. Frost; Surgery, John Wagner; Obstetrics, Thos. G. Prioleau; Chemistry, Edmund Ravenel; Anatomy, John E. Holbrook, Physiology, James Moultrie. John Bellinger was elected Demonstrator of Anatomy. In the organization of this College, a Chair of Pathological Anatomy was added to the programme, on condition of its being accepted by E. Geddings, who, in 1831, had

accepted a unanimous invitation to occupy the chair of Anatomy and Physiology in the University of Maryland, at Baltimore. In consequence of the offer being declined at that time, the chair of Pathological Anatomy was permitted to remain vacant until 1837, when the subject of Medical Jurisprudence having been added to that of Pathological Anatomy, E. Geddings resigned his position in the University of Maryland, and accepted the appointment in the Medical College of the State of South Carolina.

In the mean time, Edmund Ravenel had resigned the chair of Chemistry, and was succeeded by Charles U. Shephard, of New Haven, who is still its incumbent. The faculty remained thus constituted until sometime after the restoration of the original College property to the new corporation, and the death of John Wagner, the professorship of Surgery having become vacant by the latter event, E. Geddings, who had delivered the course on Surgery, in addition to his on Pathological Anatomy and Medical Jurisprudence, was transferred to the Surgical professorship, the place previously occupied by him being allowed to become dormant.

At a subsequent period, S. H. Dickson having accepted the appointment as Professor of Practice of Medicine in the University College of New York, in order to promote the interest of the College, E. Geddings proposed to vacate the Surgical Chair in favor of John Bellinger, and to accept the Professorship of Institutes and Practice of Medicine, rendered vacant by the resignation of S. H. Dickson. This arrangement was made; but after some time, S. H. Dickson having expressed a desire to return to Charleston, John Bellinger, with a view of promoting this object, offered to resign the Surgical Chair, on condition that E. Geddings would consent to resume it, and thus have the Chair of Practice open for S. H. Dickson. The proposition having been accepted, S. H. Dickson returned to his former position, which he continued to occupy, until he was called to the Chair of Practice of Medicine in Jefferson College, Philadelphia, which he still occupies.

A short time before this last event, E. Geddings resigned the Professorship of Surgery, and J. Julian Chisolm was elected as his successor, which position he still holds. On S. H. Dickson's resignation, which took place shortly afterwards, P. C. Gaillard was elected Professor of Institutes and Practice of Medicine, but his health failing before the course was half over, E. Geddings was waited on by a delegation of the faculty and the friends of P. C. Gaillard, with the request that he would finish the course. This request was acceded to, and at the solicitation of his former colleagues, he consented to resume his former position as Professor of Institutes and Practice of Medicine, of which Chair he is still the incumbent.

The next change in the arrangements of the College was the resignation by J. E. Holbrook, who retired from the Anatomical Chair with the title of Emeretus Professor of Anatomy, and F. T. Miles, the present incumbent, was thereupon elected Professor of Anatomy.

Under these multitudinous vicissitudes, the College continued to prosper, with a steadily augmenting evidence of still greater success, until the autumn of 1861, when the session of that year, which had already commenced, was brought to an abrupt termination by the calamities of war. All operations in the exercises of the College ceased from that period, and the halls of science were closed, until the spring of 1865, when the city having been evacuated by the Confederate troops, the Federal army took possession, under the pledge on the part of the commandant, of the protection of persons and property. Within a short period after this event, E. Geddings, then the only representative of the faculty in the city, made application to Col. Stewart L. Woodford, to claim protection of the property of a scientific institution, and, if possible, to have it placed under his protection. He was informed that it had been placed under the control of A. G. Mackey, but advised him to call on Dr. Burton, Medical Director of the Post. Application was accordingly made to Dr. Burton, who furnished the applicant with a pass, granting him the privilege of free ingress and egress. Dr.

Trennor succeeded Dr. Burton in a few days, as Medical Director, who kindly endorsed the pass, giving validity to its authority. This pass was subsequently presented to the sentinel on duty, in front of the College, who rudely refused the bearer admittance, and requested to call the officer of the day, insultingly declined to do so.

In the mean time, the gates were forced open, the fence between the Roper Hospital, (the former in the occupancy of the Federal troops,) and the doors and windows of the College broken open, thus permitting daily pillage and plunder, under the immediate observation and cognizance of the sentinel posted there to protect the property.

This process of pillage and destruction was permitted to go on without interruption until sometime in June, 1865, when Gen. Gurney, then Post Commander, sent for E. Geddings, and expressed his desire to turn over the property. An order was accordingly issued to put the College and all its appurtenances into the hands of E. Geddings, "in trust for the faculty," and to recover whatever had been stolen, or carried away, wherever it might be found. Dr. Rector, Post Surgeon, was sent to make the delivery, who acted with great kindness and courtesy.

The scene presented on entering the College would beggar any attempt at description. The floors, from the roof to the cellar, were strewn with the fragments and litter of valuable articles wantonly destroyed; chairs and tables either broken up, or carried off; all the benches of the lecture rooms torn up from their fastenings, and removed to rig up a theatre; the valuable chemical laboratory a chaotic mass of broken apparatus, much of it glass, smashed to obtain the brass, a large bag of which was found ready packed, and put aside for removal; and many pieces of valuable apparatus, model-working engines, costly air pumps, &c., &c., stolen, and shipped North. Many valuable and rare specimens of the Anatomical Museum had been pillaged and carried away, and the rich Library of the Medical Society, which was deposited in the College,

was found to have been robbed of all its most choice and recent works, while in many cases, the most costly books with plates, had the latter recklessly torn out, leaving the letter press and bindings behind. Some few of the books, and a few of the preparations from the Museum, were found at the Roper Hospital, which, it was said, had been removed there by order of A. G. Mackey. Most of them, however, was understood to have been boxed and shipped by the depredators under the sanction of authority. Two diplomas of the College, which had been filled and signed, but not called for, the parties had their names erased, and the names of an acting Assistant Surgeon, and his Hospital Steward substituted.

After all these disasters, backed by the disastrous influences of war, and the impoverished condition of the Southern country, it was no easy task to resuscitate the College from its fallen fortunes, yet the success of the last session, exceed the expectations of its friends.

## THE CHARLESTON CLUBS.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, July 3, 1866.

There has been a great improvement in the character of these associations. It has been gradual, and certainly progressive. From the notices scattered through the descriptions of writers, and the traditions of others, our ancestors before the revolution, cared more for social enjoyment than intellectual culture, but immediately subsequent to that event, they blended the pleasures of the table with the enjoyments of intellectual converse. Reading had become more general. Peace had restored to society many in Charleston who had been educated at the English universities, who had enjoyed the advantages of travel in Europe before the revolutionary war. Charles Fraser, in his *Reminiscences of Charleston*, published in 1854, records the *Wednesday meetings* of a Club of that day, composed of several of the remnants of the revolution, of which Charles Cotesworth Pinckney was one, and to show the state of manners and society of that day, remarks, "such men were in their proper element, at the head of society—it was theirs to maintain and transmit the ancient character of Charleston for intelligence and hospitality;" and here we may dwell with pride upon the uniform testimony (wherever that can be collected) of all travellers and writers in favor of these qualities. I would here refer to Mr. Josiah Quincy's *Journal of a visit to this city in 1773*, and to the Due de Laineourt, who was here in 1796. That gentleman says, in his published travels, "whatever praise may be due to European gentility, yet in no part of the globe is so much hospitality practised as in America, or can it be better exercised than in South Carolina."

There can be little doubt that the general tone of

society was influenced by the state of manners prevalent through the influence of the educated class who thus met for social purposes, and who combined mental entertainment with the offices of hospitality. By degrees the mere pleasures of what are deemed the material or grosser enjoyments gave way to the spiritual and intellectual. From those Clubs sprung those other associations that, as society advances, become centres of discussion, enlarging the sphere of mental activity, and the limits of scientific inquiry. It was so before the war, which has scattered its members. The Hon. George S. Bryan, in his Biographical Sketch of Charles Fraser, speaks of one of these Clubs whose existence dates "from almost half a century back, with the exception of an interval of some years between 1835 and 1842, has been continued to this day with weekly meetings," among whose names will be found those of Agassiz, Bachman, Gilman, Stephen Elliott, Grimke, Ravenel, and many others.



## THE CITY CEMETERIES.

[*Editorial Correspondence of the Savannah Daily News and Herald.*]

CHARLESTON, July 5, 1866.

The most ancient of the City Cemeteries are those of St. Philip and St. Michael, the Independent Congregationalist, and First and Second Presbyterian, Meeting-street; Baptist Church, Church street; Unitarian Church and German Lutheran, Archdale-street; Roman Catholic and Trinity Church, Hasel street; and Hebrew Congregation, Coming street. In some of them are interred the remains of those who were coeval with the founding of the colony, and in nearly all of them the remains of men who had distinguished themselves in the Pulpit and the Senate, on the judgment seat, at the bar and in the field—of those from whose lips flowed the truths of religion and the lessons of morality, whose counsels were the inspiration of wisdom and truth, to whose heroism we owe our liberties, and whose efforts at the forum or on the bench, upheld the majesty of the law. Let us ever hold in veneration the grounds in which they have found their last resting place, and preserve their name as a perpetual green spot in our memories.

### THE CITY OF THE DEAD.

The writer of the Reminiscences, by a poetical license, is supposed, in a part of the following remarks, to have paid a visit to Magnolia. Here we are in the City of the Dead. Here we are forced to forget all those cares and anxieties that perplex us through life. Here we must bury all those jealousies that fret and annoy us; for here all passions are subdued—all voices are stilled. How awful is this solitude! How profound is this silence! surrounded by the memorials of perishable mortality. These verdant slopes—this green

sward, so pleasant to the eye—those beautiful sheets of water—cannot disguise the silence that environs us on every side. The profundity of the solitude! It is many years since we visited Magnolia. It was the period of its consecration, when the orator of the day, in the strains of a touching eloquence recalled the images of death, himself on the verge of the grave! What would he say now, if his spirit could be reïmbodied, at contemplating the desecration with which it has been visited!

But we thought we could not present a more truthful picture of its present condition after its desecration, than from the hand of its present president, who was one of its founders, and who had been an unwilling witness of that desecration. We, therefore, requested Frederick Richards, Esq., to draw up an authentic statement of the circumstances, and to whom we stand indebted for the following correspondence.

There are two other Cemeteries adjoining Magnolia, for the interment of Catholics and German Lutherans.

#### MAGNOLIA CEMETERY.

This tract of ground just outside of the city limits, on the banks of the Cooper river, was originally known as Magnolia Umbra. When it was purchased by the present proprietors and founders of the Cemetery, it was a neglected farm, where clubs and parties of pleasure would resort to have their frolics and games. The beautiful situation of this spot, commanding an extensive and picturesque view, makes it a pleasant resort to strangers as well as to our own people.

In 1849, a few gentlemen who felt not only the desirableness of establishing a rural cemetery outside the city limits, but the great importance of it in a sanitary point of view, endeavored to organize a company for that purpose. The attachments of ancestral grounds in our church yards, and other influences, were so potent they could not succeed. They then determined to form an association and invite as many as would be willing to join with them in the enterprise; but on

canvassing the city found but eight persons who were willing to engage with them—these persons are the present proprietors. The Company was organized by the election of Mr. Edward Sebring, President, and for Directors, Wm. C. Dukes, Hon. Wm. D. Porter, Frederick Richards, George N. Reynolds, and Wm. S. Walker. *These gentlemen were the founders of Magnolia Cemetery.* The board remains at present as first organized, not a death having occurred in it or among the original proprietors. Immediately on their organization they employed the services of Mr. E. C. Jones as surveyor and architect of the grounds, to whose excellent taste and judgment they are indebted for the winding paths, and beautiful manner in which they are arranged. The work of planting trees, digging lakes, and making artificial ponds was found to be very expensive, and although most of the lots are now sold, the original outlay has not yet been returned.

It was, therefore, a private enterprise, and the individuals interested spared neither time or means to make it one of the most charming attractions of the city.

On visiting the grounds in the summer of 1861, at the entrance was a neat, commodious, and accommodating lodge, for the shelter and comfort of the many entering the gateway, the first object that struck your attention was the beautiful Gothic Chapel directly across the lake, and standing on what is known as Chapel Island. Around the Chapel was a most beautiful grove of young forest oaks, *all nearly of one size*, and from the gate entrance had the appearance of a large umbrella spread to invite and protect the weary to rest. Approaching, and west of, the chapel, was a dense forest, which the proprietors would not allow axe or pruning knife to enter, which gave a wildness to the whole appearance of this spot, as if it remained as it did a hundred years ago.

Visiting it now the heart was saddened at the change. The fencing around it destroyed; except that of Mr. Reynolds. The Lodge nearly all gone. Not one left of the forest of oaks around the chapel. The dense forest with its old mossy oaks all cut down—gone. The

furniture of the chapel, pews, etc., not a vestige left. And in answer to our enquiries found that the troops under command of Genl. J. P. Hatch were allowed to *camp on these grounds and over the graves of our people*, and to them is charged the destruction of the property and barbarity of the sacrilege to our dead.

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25 BULL STREET, May 23, 1865.

*Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch :*

General:

It is with much reluctance, and only from a positive sense of duty, that I again call your attention to matters connected with the Magnolia Cemetery.

In our first interview relative to this Cemetery in February last, I reported to you the destruction of our entire enclosure, the desecration of the church, with the ruin of its ornate window, and the cutting down of a beautiful grove of oak trees which adjoined and surrounded the chapel, and which is regarded as almost sacred from their having been dedicated with the grounds as a part of the temple, when you promptly ordered a guard to be placed for their future protection, expressing your deepest regrets at what had occurred, with a request that I would report, if any further damage was committed. I retired from this interview feeling assured that all that remained—our lodge, our good regulations, and the sanctity of the grounds at least—were safe, and would be henceforth respected. I therefore do sincerely regret having to report, that our lodge at the entrance of the grounds, and which cost us about \$1,800, has been recently almost entirely demolished. The sanctity of the grounds has been invaded, and complaints made of tombs having been robbed of their ornaments, the keeper's residence fired into, and an attempt made to fell more of the trees, but which the remonstrance of the superintendent prevented.

Little, therefore, remains to us now but our rules, regulations, and plans, and it is of the utmost importance to have them preserved and strictly adhered to.

For the further development of the grounds, feeling how essential they are, I have to report to you a case where they are seriously endangered. The grounds about the church, known as "Chapel Grove," and to which reference has been made, were *at the dedication of the grounds* in 1850, reserved as an appendage, and belonging to the chapel, because of its picturesque beauty and aptitude, and to be *forever exempted* from sale or interment. These grounds have been taken possession of by a Mr. Redpath, (who says it was by your order, although he did not show it,) who has entered upon them without our knowledge or consent, and is now having them prepared for burial purposes, in direct violation of our rights and plans, and the sacred purpose to which this spot was fifteen years ago dedicated.

The rules for the governance of this Cemetery were copied from, and identical with those at Greenwood at New York, and Mount Auburn at Boston, *which forbid the enclosure of lots with wooden fences*. He has ordered this ground to be enclosed, as I am informed, with a high wooden pale fence, which is totally unfit for the purpose, and without any regard to the regulations.

That you may act and decide with a full knowledge of facts, I deem it proper to add, that the grounds *are private property*, and in the absence (for the present) of courts to whom I might appeal for an inquisition, to arrest not only the violators of rules, but preserve the right of property, I confidently appeal to you to sustain me in the rights and protection, which they would undoubtedly afford.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,  
 FREDERICK RICHARDS,  
*Pres. p. t. M. C. Co.*

HEAD QRS., NORTHERN DIST., DEP'T SOUTH.  
Assistant Adjutant General's Office.  
Charleston, S. C., May 27, 1865.

*Mr. Frederick Richards:*

Sir.

I am directed by the Brigadier General Commanding, to acknowledge receipt of a communication from you, bearing date May 23d, 1865

The grounds selected for the burial of soldiers will be retained. Application can be made to Congress for relief. The destruction of the lodge is regretted, it was unauthorized, and if the parties can be ascertained, they will be required to pay for the same. As there is no fence around the grounds, we think it necessary to enclose the military with a fence.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. HARRIS JEWETT,  
1st Lieut. and A. A. A. G.

## APPENDIX.

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On the 26th of December, 1860, Major Robert Anderson abandoned Fort Moultrie, and transferred the garrison under his command to Fort Sumter. Before removing he spiked the guns and destroyed the carriages.

That change of base threw the community into great excitement, and embittered the feeling that had taken possession of the public mind. That act was looked upon as a violation of faith on the part of Major Anderson, as up to the evacuation of Fort Moultrie, there was a mutual agreement between South Carolina and the Federal Government, binding both parties to refrain from acts of a hostile nature.

It is worthy of record that the first flag hoisted on the ramparts of Fort Moultrie, was the Palmetto ensign of the steamer General Clinch, and Major Anderson was the son-in-law of the distinguished Georgian for whom the steamer was named.

On the 27th of December, Castle Pinckney and Fort Moultrie were occupied by volunteer commands. The former by the Rifle Battalion, under Col. J. J. Pettigrew, the latter by the Washington Artillery, the German Artillery, the Lafayette Artillery, and the Marion Artillery, under command of Colonel Wilmot G. DeSaussure.

On the 9th January, 1861, the *Star of the West*, loaded with reinforcements and supplies for Fort Sumter, attempted to run the battery on Morris Island.

Day had just begun to dawn, and under cover of the dim twilight the trim steamer thought she would sneak into the harbor unperceived by the young soldiers who kept watch and ward on the low rampart of the earth-work that had been thrown up hastily by Maj. P. F. Stevens and a detachment of Cadets.

The swift steamer moved noiselessly and with all speed until about two miles from Fort Sumter, when she was descried by the garrison in the little fort, and a shot thrown across her bow. The captain ran up the stars and stripes at the mast-head, and accelerated the steamer's speed. Another shot, aimed at the vessel, fell short, and the third only served to calm the agitation of the daring crew destined for Fort Sumter. The shot that came after increased the disquietude, for it struck the ship in the fore-chains about two feet above the water, and directly under the foot of a seaman who was holding the lead to take soundings. Fortunately for those on board the shot did not penetrate the side of the vessel. Another shot passed over the steamer near the wheel-house, and the artillerists in the earth-work were fast getting the range. In a few minutes the Star of the West would have been under the guns of Fort Moultrie, while a cutter, in tow of a steamer, was preparing to open fire on her. Seeing his case was growing worse, and though it was dangerous to turn back, it was far more dangerous to go ahead, the captain of the steamer turned her head seaward, and retired from the exciting scene.

This success caused no little joy to our community, and the practice of Major Stevens and his pupils was spoken of with hearty praise.

The battle of Port Royal was fought on the 7th of November, 1861. That harbour was defended by Forts Walker and Beauregard, and batteries on Bay Point and Hilton Head; while the fleet, under Flag Officer Tatnall, consisting of a river steamer, feeble from age, and three tugs, became the consort of the improvised flag ship. Opposed to this imposing array of feebleness was a fleet of forty-four sail. That fleet was composed of the steamers Wabash, Minesota, and Roanoke, carrying one hundred and sixty-nine guns; and the Frigate St. Lawrence, Sloop-of-War Vandalla, Sloop-of-War Jamestown, Sloop-of-War Cumberland, Sloop-of-War Savannah, Sloop-of-War Dale, sailing vessels carrying one hundred and fifty-six guns. In addition to these war vessels there were twenty-five gun-boats, each



carrying an eleven inch dahlgreen forward, one rifled gun, and four twenty-four pounders.

The Confederates never fought with more resolution and courage than they showed in defending Fort Walker or Bay Point. The fire of the fleet was terrific. Shot and shell were rained incessantly upon them for five hours, and they prepared to retreat only when all the guns in the fort were dismounted except two, and they were convinced that the contest was hopeless.

The men at Bay Point escaped with only two wounded, but the garrison at Fort Walker suffered severely, the casualties numbering about thirty killed and wounded. The retreat was skillfully conducted, the steamers under Commodore Tatnall lending important help. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton was in command of the land forces. Fort Walker was under the especial command of Col. J. A. Wagener, and his garrison was composed mainly of Germans, who behaved with great intrepidity and coolness during the furious canonade.

Among the killed were privates H. Harpin, Claus Meyer, Bringeworth, of Company B., German Artillery; F. Itgin, Company B., Hoberg, Company A., A. Sterling and Lieut. Z. E. Swygart, Company C., Fifteenth Regiment, Col. W. D. DeSaussure.

The superiority of Fort Walker had been ascertained by a reconnoissance the day before the battle, and against that work the fire of the fleet was mainly directed. The manner in which the Germans who defended it bore themselves, drew forth unbounded praise. The regiment was welcomed with enthusiasm on its return to Charleston, and at dress parade the following orders were read by Adjutant Kirkwood:

FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY, S. C. M., }  
Charleston, November 15, 1861. }

[Orders No. 1.]

The Regimental Order Book having been lost at the battle of Port Royal, the Adjutant is hereby directed to open a new one, with the following address to Companies A and B, German Artillery, inscribed upon its pages, viz:

*Fellow Soldiers of the German Artillery:* The Colonel commanding desires to embrace the occasion of your first dress-parade, after the battle of Port Royal, to testify publicly to your fidelity, courage, and good conduct on that terrible, but glorious day. Though the power of the enemy was overwhelming, he himself has acknowledged your bravery and heroism; and if praise is due to a small band of two hundred and twenty citizen soldiers for resisting with fifteen guns, for five hours, an array of eighteen war vessels, with over four hundred guns, served by the most efficient seamen in the world, you, and the little band of Carolinians that fought at your side, have fairly and honestly earned that praise.

My comrades! Yes, I may truly call you my comrades now, for we have bled together! My comrades, I desire you to hold up your heads, and to look boldly, in just pride, into the face of your fellow men; for although the day of battle was not your own, you have quitted the field only upon explicit order; and I am well assured, that you would have died to a man, sooner than that disgrace should have fallen upon the German name of your noble adopted land. In the name of both—of your German fatherland and your new Palmetto home—I thank you for your gallant valor. Let no man hereafter dare to asperse your patriotism. You shall answer him with Port Royal. You have, in truth, been tried, and not found wanting.

But remember that the glorious name you have earned with your blood must never be sullied. Remember your dead comrades, and never give them cause to blush in their heavenly home, over the deeds of those at whose side they fell, and whom in life they loved and cherished.

My brave boys, let me repeat to you what your heroic Major Huger says in his official report to me—"Should it ever be my fortune to appear upon a hard fought field, my strong desire is that the brave Germans of my Battalion should be at my back. They proved themselves a band of heroes."

And I am sure it will not be less grateful to you, to

have the assurance of your old captain, now your colonel, that I am entirely satisfied with you, and willing, if the need should ever occur, to risk life and honor, and all a man holds most dear, upon your truth, your fidelity, your valor.

By order: JOHN A. WAGENER,  
*Colonel First Artillery,*  
*Late Commandant of Fort Walker.*  
 W. D. H. KIRKWOOD, Adjutant.

Colonel Wagener, also in a Special Order, expressed his high consideration of the gallant conduct of his entire staff.

W. D. H. KIRKWOOD, Adjutant.  
 W. HUDSON FORD, Assistant Surgeon.  
 A. L. TOBIAS, Paymaster.  
 ISRAEL OTTOLENGUI, Quartermaster.  
 W. B. BURDEN, Commissary.  
 J. R. MORDECAI, Ordnance Officer.  
 DR. E. S. BUIST, Assistant Surgeon.

The following resolutions offered by Mr. George A. Trenholm, in the House of Representatives, were adopted unanimously.

*Whereas*, It is due to the adopted citizens of South Carolina, to make the most public acknowledgement of their loyalty to the State of their adoption, and put on record the acts of constancy and courage by which their fidelity and devotion have been signalized, that the fame of their meritorious conduct may be reflected on the land of their birth, and be transmitted as an honorable heritage to their posterity. Therefore

*Resolved*, That the General Assembly of South Carolina have heard with sentiments of profound admiration of the conspicuous gallantry displayed by the German Battalion of Artillery in the defence of Fort Walker, and hereby tender to their brave commander, Col. John A. Wagener, and to the troops composing the Battalion, the thanks of the General Assembly for their gallant efforts to protect the State from invasion.

The 13th and 14th of April, 1863, are conspicuous

among the memorable days that brought forth events during the late war that shall live in the memory of remote generations.

The removal of Major Anderson to Fort Sumter, the attempt of the Star of the West to reinforce that fort, and other circumstances had wrought the public mind to a high pitch of excitement. It was the universal impression that we were on the eve of stirring events, and that impression became every day more vivid. All eyes were turned to the grim fortress that guarded the entrance to our inner harbor, and it was manifest to all that if war did come, it would begin there.

It was ascertained that ships of war and provision ships had sailed from New York, under sealed orders, and a special messenger from President Lincoln informed Gov. Pickens and Gen. Beauregard, that Sumter was to be supplied with provisions by force. That information caused Gen. Beauregard to push forward the preparations for attacking Fort Sumter, and defending the harbor with uncommon vigor. Old works were strengthened and enlarged, heavy guns put in position, new works were built, and the utmost activity and energy prevailed. It was determined not to permit troops and provisions to be thrown into Fort Sumter, and in case the attempt was made, Gen. Beauregard was ordered by the Hon. L. P. Walker, Secretary of War, to use such means as he deemed proper to frustrate the attempt.

At twelve o'clock on the 11th of April, Gen. Beauregard made a formal demand for the surrender of the fort.

Major Anderson replied: "I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication demanding the evacuation of this fort, and to say in reply thereto, that it is a demand with which I regret that my sense of honor and my obligations to my government, prevent my compliance."

He added: "Probably I will await the first shot, and if you do not batter us to pieces, we will be starved out in a few days."

General Beauregard received the subjoined telegram from the Secretary of War on the 11th:

"We do not desire needlessly to bombard Fort Sumter, if Major Anderson will state the time at which, as indicated by him, he will evacuate, and agree that, in the meantime, he will not use his guns against us, unless ours should be employed against Fort Sumter."

"You are thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this or its equivalent be refused, reduce the fort as your judgment decides to be the most practicable."

Major Anderson refused to accept these propositions, and Gen. Beauregard proceeded to compel compliance with the demand he had made.

At twenty minutes past four o'clock, on Friday morning, April 13th, the battle was begun by Fort Moultrie. The boom of those guns produced the wildest excitement. Hundreds of people passed the previous night on the battery, and on the wharves that commanded a view of Sumter, and the other batteries; and when the startling sound broke upon the ear, instantly the thoroughfares were thronged with men, women and children, rushing with breathless haste to the field of strife.

Major Anderson replied to the guns of Moultrie with three of his barbette guns, and then the batteries on Cumming's Point, Mount Pleasant, Fort Johnson, and the Floating Battery, opened a spirited fire of shot and shell.

The firing from Sumter was slow, until between seven and eight o'clock, when Major Anderson brought into action the two tiers of guns looking toward Fort Moultrie, and Stevens' Iron Battery, on Cumming's Point. The firing then became rapid, and was directed mainly at those forts and the Floating Battery. Only five of our batteries were opened on Sumter, the rest being held in reserve in case the fleet attempted to enter the harbor. The battle raged the whole day and the whole night, with an exception of an interruption of about three hours, caused by a rain storm of uncommon violence. During the night, Sumter was silent, the garrison having been engaged in repairing damages, and in

protecting the barbette guns that had not been disabled.

At seven o'clock Saturday morning, Major Anderson opened a rapid fire, and for two hours he fought with resolution and valor. But all his skill and courage were unavailing. An enemy rose against him in his stronghold—an enemy more powerful and remorseless than the foe whose shot and shell rained upon him incessantly.

The red-hot shot from Moultrie had set the officer's quarters on fire, and about eleven o'clock a dense smoke was seen rising from the fort. The smoke grew every moment more dense, and by noon the whole roof of the fort, and the buildings were wrapped in flames, and the situation of the garrison was rendered more terrible by the explosions of magazines and shells.

Major Anderson made every effort to arrest and subdue the spreading flames, but they continued to rage with increasing fury. The flag was displayed half-mast, but the fleet did not reply to that signal of distress. The heat and smoke caused the garrison severe suffering, and officers and men were obliged to lie on their faces in the casemates to prevent suffocation.

All this time the batteries were pouring a torrent of shot and shell into the devoted fort. The practice of our batteries was excellent. Having got the range, the gunners fired with uncommon accuracy, and nearly every missile did some damage. Exposed to two hostile powers, and utterly unable to defend themselves against the more formidable, their condition every moment became worse, and without hope of deliverance, their only recourse was in surrender. The flag-staff was shot away. In a few minutes, the flag floated from a pole, but that was soon replaced by a flag of truce.

After the flag-staff fell, General Beauregard sent his special aid, Col. Wigfall, with a flag of truce to Major Anderson, to offer assistance in putting out the fire. Col. Wigfall passed through the iron hail, and was met by the commandant at an embrasure of the fort. Maj. Anderson complained that the firing was continued,

though he had raised a white flag. Col. Wigfall replied, that he must haul down the American flag, and agree to surrender. As soon as the flag was hauled down, the firing ceased. Senator Chestnut and Gov. Manning then went to the fort in a boat, and stipulated with Major Anderson that his surrender should be unconditional, subject to such terms as General Beauregard saw fit to require. Major Anderson and his command were treated with refined courtesy. Gen. Beauregard refused to receive Major Anderson's sword, and complimented him and his officers on the gallant defence they had made.

The garrison left in the steamer *Baltic* for New York, on Monday, carrying with them all their arms and personal effects.

This bombardment lasted forty hours. About three thousand shot and shell were fired at the fort, a large number of which did execution. The attack and the defence were marked by firmness, spirit and intrepidity; and it is a fact worthy to be remembered, that not one life was lost on either side.

Thus ended the first battle fought for the establishment of a separate and independent government. This was the inauguration of a war that dug the graves of thousands, among whom were choice men of every profession and calling—a war that tried the courage and fortitude of a brave and generous people to the utmost, but whose continuance was not by far so grievous a trial as its conclusion.

On New Year's day of 1862, the enemy landed a force of between three and four thousand at Page's Point. They were met by Col. Jones of the South Carolina Regiment, a Battalion of three Companies from Col. Dunovant's Regiment, under Lieut. Col. Barnes, and a detachment of mounted men under Major Oswald, of Col. Martin's Regiment of Cavalry. Our troops advanced with the bayonet, and the enemy fell back under cover of their gunboats. Having rallied they advanced again, but were again driven back by the impetuous valour of our soldiers.

That signal success was purchased with several valuable lives. The following, belonging to the fourteenth Regiment, S. C. V., were killed: privates A. Bartly and F. M. Riser, Company B, Lieut. J. H. Powers, private S. L. Boyd, Company C, Corporal Jason Eubanks, Privates Daily Eubands, and James Netherford, Company H. One man in Col. Barnes' Battalion was killed—Private J. T. C. Vallandigham.

On the 28th May, 1862, the enemy again landed at Page's Point, and advanced on Pocotaligo. Their force was composed of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, and numbered between two and three thousand. They were met by a detachment from the Rutledge Mounted Riflemen, who fell back slowly, firing as fast as they could load, until they were joined by their company, under Capt. W. L. Trenholm. A brisk fight then ensued, the Riflemen having the advantage of position. While the engagement was going on, Col. Walker, commanding the Fourth and Fifth Military Districts, reached the ground and took command. The enemy fired with spirit, but so resolute was the resistance, that he fell back before the arrival of reinforcements. Captain Trenholm and his company were warmly praised for the fine manner in which they behaved. No one was killed. Col. Walker narrowly escaped; his horse was shot under him. The enemy penetrated as far as Old Pocotaligo, two miles from the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

A battle took place at Secessionville on the morning of the 16th of June, 1862, which was the most important of the many battles fought in defence of Charleston. It was fought with splendid valor, and the victory was complete. The space to which we are limited obliges us to make the narrative very short.

Secessionville had been, for some weeks previous to that battle, under the command of Col. T. G. Lamar, who, with his regiment of artillery, occupied the battery he had located, planned, and built. He and his men had labored diligently on that work, but it was not more than half finished when the attack was made.

At dawn the pickets in front of the battery were



driven in, and before the alarm was spread, the enemy's column were seen advancing at double-quick. The onset was sudden and spirited, and it was some minutes before the men, weary from hard work, could be aroused. Col. Lamar, sprang to the ramparts and fired the first round. His men hastened with ardour to their posts, and grape and canister made large gaps in the thick ranks of the advancing column. They came on steadily without firing a single volley. But the storm was too terrific even for those determined men, and when within a few yards of the entrenchments, they paused, wavered, and fled in disorder.

Reinforced by infantry and artillery, the enemy again pushed forward, using their cartridges with earnestness. But despite the remonstrances of their officers, they quailed under the murderous fire, and fled from the field in hot haste.

Nothing daunted, the resolute foe bent on success, advanced the third time. They seemed resolved to take the battery, and their last attempt was marked by great courage. They reached the ditch, and some mounted the embankment, but their rashness was punished instantly and severely, and those behind seeing that the struggle was hopeless, fled in confusion.

While the enemy was advancing the last time, the Louisiana Battalion were put in position by Major Hudson, under a heavy fire, and took part with the gallant little force in the fort, with so much spirit, that they hastened their pell-mell flight from the bloody field.

The attack in front having failed, the enemy resolved to compass his object by flanking the battery. Troops were thrown forward to assault the works on the east side of the battery, while an attack was made at the same time on the west side. The former movement was speedily frustrated, and severe loss inflicted on the assailants. The latter was repelled only after a desperate fight. The New York Seventy-Ninth Regiment, composed of Highlanders, attempted to execute that portion of the work. They were met by the Charles

ton Battalion, Lieut.-Col. P. C. Gaillard, and held in check, until reinforced by the Eutaw Regiment, Col. C. H. Simonton, that had marched three miles at the double-quick, and the Louisiana Battalion, under Lieut. Col. McHenry. They charged the enemy with impetuosity, and drove him with heavy loss from the field.

Col. Lamar was wounded by a minnie ball, passing through the ear and neck, that disabled him for a time, and Lieut.-Col. T. M. Wagner took command of the battery, and contributed no little by his coolness and vigilance, toward the brilliant result. As soon as he was able, Col. Lamar returned to his post, and continued to take an active part in the fight till its close.

Lieut.-Col. Frederick, of Lamar's Regiment, rendered efficient service in working the battery.

Col. Gaillard was wounded in the knee, but remained, showing his men an example of coolness in danger that had no little to do with the noble manner in which they bore themselves in that unequal and bloody battle.

That fight caused many a heart in Charleston to bleed.

Capt. Henry C. King, of the Charleston Battalion, fell at the head of his men, while cheering them on.

The following constitute the gloomy list of those whose young life was put out amid the thunder of that memorable day.

#### EUTAW REGIMENT.

*Washington Light Infantry, Co. B.*—Lieut. R. W. Greer, Orderly Sergt. Flectwood Lanneau, jr., Privates T. N. Gadsden, jr., S. Saltus.

#### CHARLESTON BATTALION.

*Sumter Guards.*—Third Lieut. J. J. Edwards, Corp. Isaac Valentine, Private G. Poznanski.

*Calhoun Guards.*—Private Thos. Parker.

*Charleston Light Infantry.*—Private J. B. N. Hammet.

*Union Light Infantry.*—Serg. R. S. Henry.

## TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.

*Co. A.*—Robert Cohen, Benjamin Harris.

*Co. D.*—Henry Presher, U. Roach.

*Co. E.*—Jeff Spray.

*Co. G.*—Harvey Orr, Thos. Stribling.

*Co. I.*—Duncan Warley, L. Justace.

*Co. K.*—Alfred Carver.

## FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

*Co. B.*—Capt. Sam'l J. Reed, Sergt. Jas. M. Baggott, Privates George Watson, Wiley Nix, Chesley Bates, R. R. Bates, D. Reilly, H. H. Dyches, John Redmond.

*Co. I.*—U. H. Amaker, J. A. R. Shuler, J. Hoover, D. Kelly, John Jones, J. U. Gibson.

## TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.

*Co. G.*—W. L. Dawkins.

*Co. K.*—J. E. Bussy.

That hard-fought fight was attended with a loss on our side of fifty-three killed, and one hundred and thirty-four wounded. The enemy suffered very severely. Gen. Isaac C. Stephens, in his official report, states that his loss was five hundred and twenty-nine men, of whom thirty-two were officers.

The battle of the Yemassee was fought on the 22d October of this year. In importance of results, disparity of forces, and completeness of victory, this second battle at Old Pocotaligo is worthy of comparison with the battle at Secessionville.

The enemy, under Brigadier-General Terry, with a force of four thousand infantry and nine guns, landed at Mackey's Point early in the morning. They had marched about four miles without interruption. At that point they encountered our troops, consisting of Major Morgan's Squadron, Captain Kirk's Rangers, Captain Blake Heyward's Company, Captain J. B. Alston's Sharpshooters, Captain Lumkin's Virginia Battery, a section of the Beaufort Artillery, Captain

Stephen Elliott, Jr., and the Charleston Light Dragoons, Captain Rutledge.

Our troops were posted in a growth of trees, in front of which ran a strip of marsh, with a small creek passing through the centre. This marsh was intersected by a causeway, entirely unprotected by trees or growth of any kind. The object was to prevent the enemy from crossing the causeway. The battle raged for some time, the enemy doing his utmost to dislodge our feeble force from their position, when our ammunition was exhausted, and our troops fell back to Old Pocotaligo. There, under those grand old oaks, the unequal conflict was renewed. The firing was terrific. The enemy fought with obstinacy. Our troops displayed great ardour and resolution. The odds were great, but they maintained the struggle for nearly seven hours. Col. Walker was present everywhere regardless of danger, animating his weary men by word, look, and example. Captain Stephen Elliott was on his horse in the midst of the hottest of the fight, as cool as though on parade, his men behaving in a manner worthy their noble leader. The Virginia Battery covered itself with glory, but it was in an advanced position, and suffered greatly. The Charleston Light Dragoons and the Rutledge Mounted Rifles performed efficient service.

At about four o'clock in the afternoon Nelson's Battalion, commanded by Captain Sligh, reached the ground, pouring forth hearty cheers, that were answered by the weary fighters. They threw themselves into the thickest of the fight, and continued to cheer while their fellows were falling fast at their side. Victory at last rewarded the valor of our troops. At dark the enemy made a rapid retreat.

That battle lasted seven hours. It was fought not by infantry with long range muskets, but for the most part by mounted troopers, who picketed their horses, and inch by inch on foot disputed the ground with the advancing foe, and artillerists, who fought their guns until the enemy's columns were within reach of their pieces. The odds were at least eight to one.

The enemy fired fast and furious, but trees afforded so good protection, that they did but little execution. Private Thomas B. Fripp, of the Ashley Dragoons, fell at the beginning of the fight. First Lieut. T. G. Buckner, of the Beaufort District Troops, and Lieut. Speaks, of Capt. Kirk's Co. of Partizan Rangers, were killed.

Col. W. J. Walker was made Brigadier-General a short time after the battle of Yemassee.

The countenances of the dwellers in our ancient city beamed with joy on the morning of Saturday, the last of January, 1863. It was bruited on Friday evening that our iron-plated gunboats were going to pay a visit to the blockading fleet, and great was the rejoicing when the news of the attack and its brilliant result, was spread abroad.

The Palmetto State was in command of Capt. Rutledge, with flag officer, Commodore D. N. Ingraham, on board, and the Chicora, commanded by Capt. John R. Tucker. The whole expedition was under the command of Commodore Ingraham. They came upon the blockaders under cover of the hazy light, and the Palmetto State struck the Mercedita, before those on board that vessel were aware of her presence. The Chicora went boldly into the fight, and poured several broadsides at short range into several large steamers that failed to get out of her way. The whole fleet speedily dispersed and disappeared, and the victorious iron clads were received with enthusiastic welcome on their return to the city.

Tuesday, 8th April, 1863, is another memorable day that deserves a place in this short narrative of the more important battles that were fought, in the prolonged and valiant defence of Charleston.

At two o'clock, Tuesday afternoon, the enemy advanced down the main ship channel, in two lines of battle, each line composed of four monitors. The monitors were the Passaic, Capt. Ammon; the Weehawken, Capt. Deans; the Nabant, Capt. John Rogers; the Catskill, Capt. Fairfax; the Nantucket, Capt. George Rogers; the Montauk, Capt. Worden; the Keokuk, and the frigate New Ironsides, the flag ship of the fleet,

commanded by Capt. Turner. The first line was in advance, and farthest from Fort Sumter, and the second beginning astern of the first, about a hundred yards nearer the land.

The first line advanced slowly toward the buoy about fourteen yards from Fort Sumter, the Pasaic taking the lead.

At half-past two the long roll was beaten, and Col. Rhett ran up three colors—the Garrison, Regimental, and Palmetto flags—to their respective mast-heads, amid the smoke and thunder of the national salute, and the inspiring music from the band to the lively air of Dixie.

Fort Moultrie opened rapidly by battery on the leading monitor. In a few minutes the barbette battery on the east face of Fort Sumter, commanded by Capt. Fleming, opened. The Pasaic returned two shots in rapid succession. At ten minutes past three Battery Bee, and Forts Wagner, Beauregard, and the Battery on Cumming's Point joined in the mellee, and the engagement became general.

The Pasaic, though at a distance of fourteen hundred yards, was hit several times in the turret. After receiving the fire of Fort Sumter and the batteries for thirty minutes, she drew off out of range. Her partners of the first line steamed to the point she occupied one after the other, remained under fire about the same length of time, and retired content with the glory they had won.

The splendid ship Ironsides came up next, proud of her might and power, and confident of success. Her formidable armament of fourteen eleven inch guns, and two two hundred pound rifles, opened with terrific fury on Cumming's Point, Moultrie, Beauregard and Sumter, firing several broadsides. But the huge black sides of the frigate presented so fine a target, and the forts rained upon her so terrible a storm of heavy missiles, that the defiant ship, seeing that she was exposed to certain destruction, likewise withdrew from the too exciting scene.

As soon as the Ironsides rounded, the second line of

monitors advanced, led by the Keokuk, that had two turrets, and was expected to do great things. Passing handsomely under the stern of the frigate, she took position within nine hundred yards of Fort Sumter. That fort poured a concentrated fire on the daring vessel, the other batteries plying her with all vigor. She stood the storm manfully for forty minutes, when she retreated so damaged, both in turrets and hull that making her way out of the fight with riddled smoke-stack, and steam escaping from the holes in her sides, she went down the next morning at her anchorage.

The first shot fired at the Keokuk from Fort Sumter, was from the Brook rifled gun that was aimed by Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph A. Yates. The bolt weighed one hundred and nineteen pounds, and entered one of the embrasures in the turret. A second shot fired by the same skilful hand, struck immediately above the first, making a ragged hole, and a third fired by the gunner of the piece tore up a portion of the deck near the bow.

During the engagement the monitors fired ninety balls, only about forty of which struck Fort Sumter. The Fort sustained considerable damage. None were killed.

The parapet batteries of Fort Sumter were under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Yates; the casemate batteries of Major O. Blanding.

Fort Moultrie was under command of Col. William Butler. There was one casualty at that Fort. The flag staff, which was cut away by a shot from one of the monitors, fell upon Private Lusby, Company F., 1st S. C. (Regular) Infantry, causing death in a short time.

Battery Bee was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Simkins, First S. C. Regular Infantry.

The Beauregard Battery was commanded by Captain J. A. Selgreaves, First Regular S. C. I.

On Friday, July 10, 1863, at half-past five in the morning, the enemy opened fire from his batteries on Folly Island upon the work on the extreme South end of Morris Island. Captain J. C. Mitchell, in command

of that work, replied slowly. The enemy fired very fast from more than seventy guns; and his earthworks of uncommon strength, afforded ample shelter to the gunners. Our works were small, of little strength, and open, and the guns only six in number, of small calibre. Though that skillful officer was aware he could not maintain his position, with noble firmness he, and the gallant men under his command, stood their ground for four dreadful hours.

At half-past nine o'clock the enemy landed a large force at Morris Island. They were attacked by Captain Mitchell, who had been reinforced by Col. Graham's Regiment. The contest was sharp. Largely outnumbered at the beginning of the fight, the force of the enemy was increased continually by fresh arrivals from Folly Island, while the odds in his favor was made the greater by the effective fire from four monitors and fifteen barges armed with howitzers. The fire from the former was peculiarly destructive, and the sharpshooters also did us no little damage by picking off the men at the guns. It was the fatal aim of one of these that put an end to the young life of the gallant Lient. John Bee.

The battery, swept by an enfilading fire that made havoc with his handful of men, and threatened by an assault from a large force that were forming in order of battle, the men completely exhausted, and no longer able to accomplish anything by remaining at their pieces, the gallant Captain was obliged to give the order to fall back.

They retired slowly and without confusion. Captain J. Ravenel Macbeth and Lieutenant G. Heyward were so weakened by exertion and the great heat, that they were unable to make their escape and were taken prisoners. Captain Mitchell was at one time in the hands of the enemy, but his men rallied and rescued him.

Captain Mitchell's artillerymen fell back with the infantry to Battery Wagner. The enemy formed in line of battle across Gregg's Hill to Vinegar Hill. The 21st Regiment, S. C. V., Major McIver commanding,



and Nelson's Battalion, together with the artillerists, all under the command of Col. Graham, joined battle with the enemy, but the odds were too great, and after a fierce fight they were compelled to fall back on Battery Wagner. Emboldened by his success the enemy made two determined attempts to take that work, but after sustaining heavy loss, were obliged to abandon the undertaking.

Our loss in these engagements was three hundred killed and wounded, among whom were sixteen officers. The enemy's loss was uncommonly heavy.

Captain Langdon Cheeves, a gentleman of rare worth, and an engineer of attainments and skill and great industry, was struck in the head by the fragment of a shell that exploded in Battery Wagner, and killed almost instantly.

Captain Charles Haskell was also killed.

At daylight the next morning the enemy made a desperate assault on Battery Wagner, but were quickly repulsed, with the loss of ninety-five killed, many wounded, and one hundred and thirty prisoners. There were only five casualties on our side.

The prolonged defence of Battery Wagner was marked by skill, diligence, watchfulness, perseverance, and the constant exhibition of all the qualities of manhood. Never were men more severely tried, and never did men endure hardships with greater heroism, and face danger with firmer courage, and more gallant valour. The history of that period will compose one of the brightest pages in the narrative of that struggle in which the South acquired glory, whose lustre is not dimmed by eventual failure. That splendid defence of Battery Wagner inaugurated the still more glorious defence of Fort Sumter. I regret that the limit of this pamphlet obliges me to notice with great brevity only the more stirring events of that investment.

On the 14th of July, at about midnight, Major Rion, with a detachment from the Twelfth Georgia Regiment, Fifty-first North Carolina, and other corps, numbering between two and three hundred men, made an attack on the advanced rifle pits of the enemy, about three

quarters of a mile from Battery Wagner. The sally took the enemy by surprise, and was completely successful. About forty of the enemy were killed, and a number taken prisoners. Our loss was one killed and several wounded.

Captain Paul Hamilton Waring, on volunteer duty at Battery Wagner, was killed the next day by a minnie ball fired by a sharpshooter.

Fort Wagner was subjected daily to a furious bombardment by the monitors and gunboats. Guns of the largest calibre rained shot and shell of immense size on that powerful work. On Saturday, the 18th, the firing was terrific. Five monitors, the new Ironsides, seven wooden gunboats, with land batteries on the Island, poured a converging stream of fire into the Fort. Sixty-five heavy guns and eight mortars shook the air with their thunder for eleven consecutive hours. Shot and shell burst and tore up the ground at the rate of twenty-seven a minute.

At eight o'clock in the evening, the enemy advanced in two columns of three thousand each, under the command of Brigadier-General Strong. The column which attacked our left, advanced with spirit at the double-quick, under a severe fire from Sumter and Wagner. When the enemy reached a point about sixty yards from the Fort, the infantry, who, at the alarm given by the pickets, sprang to their places undaunted by the terrible storm that had been raging all day, fresh and eager for the fray, poured a galling fire from behind the parapet into the black masses that moved steadily toward the Fort. But the column continued to advance, and a numerous force succeeded in gaining the trench, and began to scale the sides of the battery. At that moment two brass howitzers that had been placed in position by Col. Harris, and were in charge of Lieut. Waties, of Blake's Battery, opened a raking fire that swept the trench, and made fearful havoc in the thick ranks of the assailants. Twice the enemy were driven back, and the dead lay piled up in the trenches.

There were also two assaults on the right, marked by the same desperate fury that distinguished the

attack on the other side. The Charleston Battalion were posted in that wing, and the behaviour of that fine corps increased the lustre of the fame they won by their gallant conduct at Secessionville.

A small number of the enemy succeeded in effecting a lodgement in one of the salients, the gun of which had been disabled. Captain Ryan fell in the gallant but unsuccessful attempt to dislodge them. They paid for their audacity with their liberty, for a small force of Georgians having ascended the magazine, and thus gained a position that commanded the salient, speedily compelled them to surrender.

The fight raged with unabated fury for three hours. The enemy left six hundred on the field, and his whole loss exceeded fifteen hundred. Our casualties numbered about one hundred. Among these, however, were several most worthy gentlemen and valuable officers. Lieutenant-Colonel Simkins and Captain W. H. Ryan were killed. Major David Ramsay, a scholar of rare attainments, a lawyer profoundly acquainted with the principles of his profession, a gentleman of unblemished character, and worthy of the honoured name he bore, received a wound while leading a detachment of his men to occupy an angle, the gun in which had become useless, that put an end to his useful life on the 4th August.

Major Ramsay and Captain Ryan, belonged to the Charleston Battalion. The following of the same command were killed: Sergeant Lambers, Privates S. J. Nesbit, M. Twohill, Sergeant W. K. Smith and Private S. T. Hyde.

Col. Shaw, 54th Massachusetts Regiment, U. S. C. T., the Lieutenant-Colonel of the same regiment, a Major and several other officers of high grade were killed.

Early in August, the enemy opened fire on Sumter, from a battery of Parrott guns, distant two miles and five-eighths from the fort. That steady and effective cannonading was maintained at regular intervals, until the grand old fort was abandoned. Its successful defence is an achievement that reflects immortal glory on

the intelligence, skill, perseverance and valour of all who shared its dangers and difficulties.

Friday night, the 21st August, 1863, Gen. Hagood received the following communication at Battery Wagner :

HEAD QUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Morris Island, S. C., Aug. 21, 1863.

*General*: I have the honor to demand of you the evacuation of Morris Island, and Fort Sumter by the Confederate forces. The present condition of Fort Sumter, and the rapid and progressive destruction which it is undergoing from my batteries, seem to render its complete molition within a few hours, a matter of certainty. All my heaviest guns have not yet been opened.

Should you refuse compliance with this demand, or should I receive no reply thereto within four hours after it is delivered into the hands of your subordinate at Fort Wagner, for transmission, I shall open fire on the city of Charleston from batteries already established within easy and effective range of the heart of the city.

I am, General, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Signed), Q. A. GILLMORE.

The communication was received at Head Quarters about a quarter to eleven o'clock, Friday night, by Gen. Jordan, Gen. Beauregard being absent on official duty, and returned for the signature of the writer. It was signed, and received at Gen. Beauregard's Headquarters, at nine o'clock, Saturday morning. Between one and two o'clock that morning, the enemy opened fire on the city, and threw thirteen eight-inch shells, at intervals of about fifteen minutes. One shot struck the store of G. W. Williams & Co., at the corner of Church and Hayne streets, doing some damage to the building, and setting fire to some loose straw. The fire caused no little excitement, but it was easily put out.

Those shells were thrown from a battery located in

the marsh between Morris and Black Island, distant over five miles from Charleston.

On that same day, Col. P. C. Gaillard, of the Charleston Battalion, had his left hand shot off by a shell.

On the Thursday previous, Capt. Robert Pringle, of Lucas' Battalion, was killed at Battery Wagner by a piece of shell striking him in the breast.

The following is a copy of the reply of General Beauregard to the communication of General Gillmore, conveyed by Col. Roman, under flag of truce, to the enemy's flag ship for delivery :

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT S. C., GA., AND FLA. }  
Charleston, S. C., August 22, 1863. }

*Sir*: Last night, at fifteen minutes before eleven o'clock, during my absence on a reconnoissance of my fortifications, a communication was received at these Headquarters, dated Headquarters Department of the South, Morris Isand, S. C., August 21st, 1863, demanding the "immediate evacuation of Morris Island and Fort Sumter by the Confederate forces," on the alleged grounds that "the present condition of Fort Sumter, and the rapid and progressive destruction it is undergoing from my batteries, seem to render its complete demolition within a few hours a matter of certainty," and that if this demand "was not complied with, or no reply thereto was received within four hours after it is delivered into the hands of your (my) subordinate commander at Fort Wagner for transmission," a fire would be opened "on the city of Charleston from batteries already established within easy and effective range of the heart of the city." This communication, to my address, was without signature, and of course returned.

About half-past one this morning one of your batteries did actually open fire and throw a number of heavy rifle shells into the city, the inhabitants of which, of course, were asleep and unwarned.

About nine o'clock this morning the communication alluded to above, was returned to these headquarters,

bearing your recognized official signature, and it can now be noticed as your deliberate official act.

Among nations not barbarous, the usages of war prescribe that, when a city is about to be attacked, timely notice shall be given by the attacking commander, in order that non-combatants may have an opportunity for withdrawing beyond its limits. Generally the time allowed is from one to three days—that is, time for the withdrawal, in good faith, of at least the women and children. You, sir, give only four hours, *knowing* that your notice, under existing circumstances, could not reach me in less than two hours, and that not less than the same time would be required for an answer to be conveyed from this city to Battery Wagner. With this knowledge, you threaten to open fire on the city, not to oblige its surrender, but to force me to evacuate those works, which you, assisted by a great naval force, have been attacking in vain for more than forty days.

Batteries Wagner and Gregg, and Fort Sumter are nearly due North from your batteries on Morris Island, and in distance therefrom varying from a half mile to two and a quarter miles; this city, on the other hand, is to the northwest, and quite five miles distant from the battery opened against it this morning.

It would appear, sir, that, despairing of reducing these works, you now resort to the novel measure of turning your guns against the old men, the women and children, and the hospitals of a sleeping city; an act of inexcusable barbarity from your own *confessed* point of sight, inasmuch as you allege that the “complete demolition of Fort Sumter” within a few hours by your guns seem to you *a matter of certainty*.

Your omission to attach your signature to such a grave paper must show the recklessness of the course upon which you have adventured. While the facts that you knowingly fixed a limit for receiving an answer to your demand, which made it almost beyond the possibility of receiving any reply within that time, and that you actually did open fire and throw a number of the most destructive missiles ever used in war,

into the midst of a city taken unawares, and filled with sleeping women and children, will give you a bad eminence in history, even in the history of this war.

I am only surprised, sir, at the limits you have set to your demand. If, in order to obtain the abandonment of Morris Island and Fort Sumter, you feel authorized to fire on this city, why did you not also include the works on Sullivan's and James' Island—nay, even the city of Charleston—in the same demand?

Since you have felt warranted in inaugurating this method of reducing batteries in your immediate front, which were found otherwise impregnable, and a mode of warfare which I confidently declare to be atrocious and unworthy of any soldier, I now solemnly warn you, that if you fire again on this city from your Morris Island batteries, without granting a somewhat more reasonable time to remove non-combatants, I shall feel impelled to employ such stringent means of retaliation as may be available during the continuance of this attack.

Finally, I reply that neither the works on Morris Island or Fort Sumter will be evacuated on the demand you have been pleased to make. Already, however, I am taking measures to remove, with the utmost possible celerity, all non-combatants, who are now fully aware of, and alive to, what they may expect at your hands.

Respectfully, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

General Commanding.

To Brigadier-General Q. A. Gillmore, commanding U. S. Forces, Morris Island.

That was the beginning of a bombardment prolonged through many weary months. There were thousands of shells thrown into the city from the batteries on Morris Island, but though many buildings were struck, few lives were lost, and the damage done was far from being an equivalent to the enemy, for the vast sum of money the shelling cost.

The Post Office was removed on the 25th August, to the corner of King and Ann streets.

On the night of August 26th, our advanced pickets, numbering eighty men, occupying the rifle-pits in front of Fort Wagner, were flanked and surrounded by three regiments of the enemy. Our men, though taken by surprise, fought valiantly, but were overborne by overwhelming numbers.

The enemy's success on the 10th July, made it evident that Morris Island must eventually fall into his hands. Its defence had been marked by resolution and valor that reflect undying fame on the men who shared the dangers of that memorable campaign. Our casualties numbered about seven hundred; the enemy's was not less than six thousand.

After maintaining the defence for forty-eight days, Morris Island was evacuated Sunday night, Sept. 6th, 1863.

For three days and nights Battery Wagner had been subjected to a fire of unparalleled fierceness from the enemy's land batteries, several gunboats, and the monitors. The bombardment raged with greatest fury through the whole of Saturday night, up to eight o'clock on Sunday. The shots were often more than sixty to a minute. The fort had been seriously damaged. The wood work of the bomb-proofs were laid nearly bare, and the sand displaced to such a degree that the sally-ports were almost entirely blocked up. The parallels of the enemy had been pushed up to the very mouth of Battery Wagner. The evacuation was necessary, and it was accomplished with perfect success by Col. Keitt, assisted by Maj. Bryan. At one o'clock, Monday morning, the last three boats glided noiselessly from the island. Batteries Gregg and Wagner had been mined, and the slow match was lighted by Capt. Huguenin at Wagner, and Capt. Lesesne at Gregg, but owing to defective fuses, the expected destruction did not take place.

Our loss during that frightful bombardment was nearly two hundred.



Among the killed were Corporal J. G. Newcomer, Co. A, Washington Light Infantry; Lieut. R. A. Blum, Co. B, Washington Light Infantry; Lieut. N. Montgomery, Wee Nee Volunteers; F. J. Lamb, Ripley Guards; A. Adams, Yeadon Light Infantry; E. Lynch, Yeadon Light Infantry; E. Graham, Capt. McKennal's Company; M. Rollinson, Edisto Rifles; P. U. Worsham, Clarendon Guards.

Gen. Gilmore's success at Morris Island inspired Admiral Dalgren with the desire to do some great thing with his formidable fleet. Accordingly, about ten o'clock, on Monday morning, the 7th September, he demanded the surrender of Fort Sumter.

To this demand the following answer was made:

Inform Admiral Dalgren that he may have Fort Sumter when he can take and hold it; that such demands are puerile and unbecoming; also, that no farther flags of truce will be received from him or General Gillmore, until they satisfactorily explain the firing on flags of truce from these Headquarters, on several recent occasions.

(Signed),

THOMAS JORDAN,  
*Chief of Staff.*

To Major Stephen Elliott, commanding Fort Sumter.

It was attempted to execute the threat conveyed by Admiral Dalgren's summons to surrender Fort Sumter on the morning of the 9th September. At half-past one o'clock, a fleet of barges were seen approaching the berm and the gorge face of the fort. The sentries on the parapets immediately threw up three rockets. That signal was answered by Fort Johnson, Battery Simkins, Fort Moultrie, and the gunboat Chicora, all which opened upon the barges; while the infantry, consisting mainly of the Charleston Battalion, commanded by Capt. Blake, poured a rapid and spirited fire into the black masses moving on the water. The foremost barge gained the ledge, and the officers and men entered upon their work with gallantry and resolution. They were met with greater gallantry by the brave

defenders, and after fighting obstinately for a few minutes, the storming party retreated in confusion to the base of the fort. The whole party surrendered, and the other barges, dismayed at the furious fire, forsook their companions, and fled in haste.

This short and sharp fight resulted in the capture of thirteen naval officers, and one hundred and two men, three stands of colors, and four fine barges. Among the flags taken was the identical flag which floated from the parapet, while Major Anderson was commandant of the fort.

Notwithstanding our space is limited, I cannot forbear noticing the daring attempt to blow up the Ironsides.

On the night of October 6th, Lieutenant G. W. T. Glassell, accompanied by Messrs. Sullivan, Toombs, and Cannon, proceeded in a boat constructed for the purpose, with a torpedo of the largest size fastened to her bow, to perform the perilous work he had undertaken.

The little steamer was received with volley after volley of musketry from the frigate. But heedless of the bullets the little queer-shaped craft pursued her course through the dangers, and struck the Ironsides with the torpedo. A terrific explosion took place, jarring the immense ship, and throwing a huge column of water into her decks. The gallant Lieutenant and Mr. Sullivan were picked up by one of the frigate's boats. Their companions were drowned.

Letter-writers made light of the effect of that gallant attempt to destroy the New Ironsides. But the truth gradually leaked out, and it was admitted that the powerful and splendid ship suffered grave damage.

The monotony of the bombardment of Fort Sumter was interrupted by a heart-rending occurrence on the morning of the 31st October. At three o'clock, a three hundred pounder parrot shell struck an iron girder in the sea wall of the barracks, causing it to fall in and crush and kill thirteen of the heroic garrison.

The following are the names of the brave men who were the victims of that terrible disaster: Sergt. W. C. Owens, Sergt. J. A. Stevens, Privates S. L. Burrows,

F. M. Burrows, S. W. Anderson, James Calder, O. J. Burn, W. E. Gibson, J. W. Jones, L. S. Lee, and A. N. Patterson.

At day break on Sunday, the 3rd July, 1864, the enemy made a spirited assault on Fort Johnson. One column effected a landing below Battery Simkins, and were gallantly repulsed. The second column, under the immediate command of Col. Hoyt, who also had command of the expedition, attacked the Brook Gun, in command of Lieut. Raworth, in overwhelming numbers, and forced our men back. Encouraged by that success, they advanced in spirited style upon Fort Johnson. But the terrific fire by the light and heavy batteries on the line was too hot for them, and some surrendered, others retreated to their barges, and many took shelter in the Brook Gun Battery. A charge was ordered by Lieut.-Col. Joseph Yates, the battery recovered, and sixty-five men captured. Battery Cheves, commanded by Capt. Hunter, 2nd Reg. S. C. A., opened fire on the retreating barges, and sunk several.

At daylight of the 9th July, 1864, a severe fight took place at John's Island.

The enemy had thrown up a heavy line of intrenchments, a mile long, and strongly fortified them with artillery, about a mile and a half in front of Burden's causeway. His troops behind the intrenchments numbered about three thousand men.

Our infantry were commanded by Colonel Harrison, 32nd Georgia, and our artillery by Lieut.-Col. Del Kemper, the whole under the command of Gen. B. H. Robertson. Our advance troops consisted of the 32nd Georgia, 1st Georgia Regulars, 47th Georgia, Bonneau's Georgia Battalion, part of the 4th Georgia Cavalry, and the Marion and Washington Artillery.

The strong position of the enemy was stormed in the face of a murderous fire of musketry and artillery. The Georgians behaved most gallantly, leaping over the works, a bloody hand-to-hand fight was fought behind the fortifications. The struggle lasted about an hour, when the enemy gave way along the whole line,

and were gradually driven back to their second line of intrenchments. That night they abandoned the island. Their loss was heavy; our casualties were one hundred killed and wounded.

Capt. John C. Mitchell, who was placed in command of Fort Sumter, on the promotion and removal of Maj. Stephen Elliott, was killed by the fragment of a shell thrown from Morris Island, while in an exposed position in Sumter.

Captain Mitchell was held in great respect and esteem on account of uncommon talents and acquisitions, and rare personal worth.

Captain Thomas A. Hugenin succeeded Captain Mitchell as commandant of Fort Sumter.

From the battle of John's Island to the day on which Charleston fell into the hands of the enemy, no event of special interest occurred. The hostile guns continued to play upon our batteries and the city, killing and wounding and setting fire, but without accomplishing any end at all commensurate with the immense outlay of skill, labor, perseverance and money. The end at last was attained. The goal was reached and the prize won. Charleston was evacuated on the 17th February, 1865.

The enemy in our front took possession of the works around the city, but not until after they were abandoned. Every effort he made to accomplish that end had been frustrated. The battles fought on the land, though with large odds against us, had resulted in his defeat. Fort Sumter was torn to pieces by shot and shell. Day and night, for many months, the storm of battle smote and shook its walls, until their strength and symmetry was so marred, it pained the heart to behold it. The flag was shot down times without number, and many of its heroic defenders were pierced by deadly missiles. But the flag continued to float from the ragged parapet, and the sundown gun never failed to thunder defiance on the evening air. The formidable fleet had put forth its great power, but all in vain. Monitors and sailing vessels dared not attempt to run

the gauntlet of our batteries, and it was not until the works that defended the city on its sea-side were abandoned, that another flag waved over them. Gen. Sherman's flank movement obliged the evacuation of Charleston. The city was given up, it was never taken.

The events of the day following are of so recent date and of so painful a nature, that we pass them over in silence, and shall conclude this brief review of some of the more noteworthy occurrences of the siege and investment of Charleston, with the official correspondence between Mayor Macbeth and Col. Bennett.

Lient.-Col. A. G. Bennett, with several officers, reached the city, and landed at South Atlantic Wharf, at 10 o'clock in the morning. The fire caused by the terrible explosion in the storehouse of the North-Eastern Railroad, was then burning fiercely, and threatened to lay the larger portion of the city in ashes. Mayor Macbeth had dispatched Aldermen Gilliland and Williams to proceed to Morris Island with the following communication :

*To the General Commanding the Army of the U. S. at Morris Island :*

Sir:—The military authorities of the Confederate States have evacuated this city. I have remained to enforce law, and preserve order, until you take such steps as you may think best.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

CHARLES MACBETH,

*Mayor.*

The boat with a white flag, containing the Aldermen, was observed by Col. Bennett, and in the interview that followed, the subjoined reply was made to the Mayor's note.

HEAD QRS., U. S. FORCES, CHARLESTON HARBOR,  
North Atlantic Wharf, Feb. 18, 1865.

*Mayor Charles Macbeth :*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date. I have in reply thereto,

to state that the troops under my command will render every possible assistance to your well disposed citizens in extinguishing the fires now burning.

I have the honor to be, Mayor,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

A. G. BENNETT,

*Lieut.-Col. Commanding U. S. Forces, Charleston.*

The navy took possession of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney, and a volunteer party of ten men from Morris Island planted the U. S. flag on Sumter.

[The following incidents, although not in the chronological order of the narrative of military transactions, are of sufficient interest to be recorded, and are authentic.]

### GENERAL BEAUREGARD'S COMMENTS ON GENERAL GILLMORE'S LETTER.

SEPT. 30, 1863.—As an important part of this running narrative, I copy a portion of General Beauregard's comment on General Gillmore's report of the occupation of Morris Island. That report contained so many false statements, that General Beauregard deemed it proper to correct them and publish the truth:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT S. C., GA., AND FLA., }  
Charleston, S. C., September 30, 1863. }

*General:* The published report of Brigadier-General Gillmore, of the 7th inst., to his Government, relative to his dequisition of Batteries Wagner and Gregg, contains several errors which I feel called upon to correct:

1st. "Seventy-five men" were not taken on Morris Island, for only two boats' crews, about nineteen men and twenty-seven soldiers, or about forty-six men in all, were captured by the enemy's armed barges between Cummings' Point and Fort Sumter.

2d. Colonel Keitt's captured dispatches could not have shown that the garrison of Wagner and Gregg amounted to "between fifteen hundred and sixteen hundred effective men" on the day of the evacuation, for Col. Keitt reported, that morning, nine hundred men, all told, only about two-thirds of which could be considered "effectives," the others being wounded, or more or less disabled from exposure for so long a period to the weather, and the incessant fire, day and night, of the enemy's land and naval batteries. The

forces holding these works and the north end of Morris Island, during the fifty-eight day's siege, varied from one thousand to twelve hundred men, seldom exceeding the latter number when it could be avoided.

3d. Battery Wagner was not "a work of the most formidable kind," but an ordinary field work, with thick parapets, but with ditches of little depth—the sand thrown up by the enemy's shells and drifted by the winds during so long a siege, had partially covered up the explosive shells, spiked planks and pikes placed in the ditch for its defence.

4th. The bomb-proof of Wagner could not contain eighteen hundred men or more than about six hundred, the garrison of the work being about eight hundred men.

5th. "Nineteen pieces of artillery, and a large supply of excellent ammunition were captured." The pieces of heavy and light artillery left in Wagner and Gregg were more or less damaged, and all with their vents not too much enlarged were spiked, the carriages, chassis, &c., were more or less disabled by the enemy's shot and shell. Only eighteen hundred (two hundred in Wagner, sixteen hundred in Gregg) pounds of ammunition were left to explode the magazines and bomb-proofs; but, unfortunately, through some accident, the fuses left burning did not ignite the powder.

I will conclude by stating that, strange as it may appear, the total loss in killed and wounded on Morris Island, from July 10th to September 7th, 1863, was only six hundred and forty-one men, and deducting the killed and wounded due to the landing on the 10th July, and to the assaults of the 11th and 18th July, the killed and wounded due the terrible bombardment which lasted almost uninterruptedly, night and day, during fifty-eight days, amounted to two hundred and ninety-six men, many of whom were only slightly wounded. It is still more remarkable, that during the same period of time, when the enemy fired six thousand two hundred and two shots and shell at Fort Sumter, varying in weight from thirty pounds to three hundred



pounds, only eight men were killed and forty-nine wounded. Indeed, the hand of the Almighty would seem to have protected the heroic garrison of that now historic work.

Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

(Signed,)

*General Commanding.*

Official: JOHN WITHERS, A. A. G.

## BATTLE OF COOSAWHATCHIE.

DEC. 9, 1864.—On Friday afternoon, the 9th December, 1864, the enemy attacked our lines at Coosawhatchie, with great spirit.

The morning was ushered in with severe skirmishing, which was continued with more or less vigor until four o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy then attempted to obtain possession of the Tilifinny Cut and trestle work, a position commanding the line of railroad to Coosawhatchie. That movement led to a general engagement. On the enemy's approach, our troops advanced to meet them, and with a cheer, charged the dense lines with the bayonet. The fight that followed was fierce and bloody. It raged over two hours, and resulted in the enemy being driven into his intrenchments.

The heaviest fighting was between a body of the enemy, numbering about three thousand men, under Gen. Hatch, and the Georgia troops, under the command of Gen. L. H. Gartrell, our right resting on Tilifinny Creek.

This was one of the severest fights fought during the prolonged defence of Charleston. The enemy displayed great valor, and having had large odds in his favor, he seemed bent upon accomplishing his purpose. Never did our troops show more resolution and courage than did the small force that bore the brunt of the fight on our right.

The enemy paid dearly for his temerity. His loss was estimated at between seven and eight hundred killed and wounded. Our loss was seven killed, and fifty wounded.

Gen. Gartrell was painfully wounded by a fragment of shell in the arm and side. Capt. Sheffield, an excellent officer and an estimable man, belonging to the 47th Georgia Regiment, was killed on the field. Captains Heartnell and Wood, of the 1st Georgia Reserves, were wounded.

The Georgia Reserves behaved with all the steadiness of regulars, and contributed in no small measure to that distinguished success. The color-bearer of the First Georgia having fallen, a lieutenant gallantly seized the flag, and bore it through a terrific fire of musketry within thirty yards of the enemy's line of battle, where he fell pierced with many bullets.

### BRIG. GEN. STATES RIGHTS GIST.

There is a name that deserves special mention in this short narrative of the siege and investment of Charleston.

Brigadier General States Rights Gist was conspicuous among those noble men who worked and suffered in the defence of our city.

He fell on the battle-field of Franklin, Tennessee, while rallying his men to make a charge. He served with distinguished bravery all through the long and bloody campaigns of Generals Johnson and Hood, in North Georgia, East and Middle Tennessee.

He was born in Union District, on the 3d September, 1831. In 1836 he graduated at the South Carolina College. After passing several years at Cambridge, in the study of law, he returned to South Carolina, and entered upon the practice of law in Union Village. In 1855 he was made Brigadier-General of militia. Having exhibited peculiar aptitude for the military profession, he was appointed Adjutant and Inspector-General of the

State. He served as volunteer aid to General Bee at the first battle of Manassas. After the noble Bee fell, he acted under orders from General Beauregard. In January, 1862, on General Robert E. Lee's recommendation, he was appointed Brigadier-General in the Confederate Army.

The largest portion of the time he spent at Secessionville he was in command of the troops stationed there. He took part in the hard fought fight that took place at that point, and behaved with wonted spirit and firmness. He was also in several of the battles around Atlanta, in one of which he received a painful wound. He was twice wounded in the bloody battle near Franklin. A bullet struck his thigh, but not aware of the dangerous character of the wound, he refused to leave the field. While facing the dangers with resolute heart and steady nerves, he received another wound, in the right lung. He staggered back, saying, "take me to my wife," falling into the hands of Mr. Trenholm, died instantly. He was hit while the fore-feet of his horse rested on the enemy's breastworks.

General Gist possessed a strong, clear, quick mind; a sound judgment, and an earnest, determined spirit. He was prompt, decided, firm and energetic; considerate, generous and brave. Adorned with these virtues, he rendered good service to the cause in whose vindication he gave his life; and has left a name that stands high in the list of sons whose memory South Carolina will cherish with pride and gratitude.

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### BATTLE OF HONEY HILL.

Nov. 30.—The battle of Honey Hill was fought on Wednesday morning, 30th November, 1864.

Honey Hill is about two and a half miles distant from the village of Grahamville, Beaufort District, South Carolina. Where the highway crosses the crest of the hill, was a line of breastworks, neither possessing great strength, nor of the proper height. These

defective works formed the centre of our line, while our left was spread out into the pine land, altogether without protection, and our right along a line of fence that skirts the swamp below the batteries.

The enemy came up by the main road in front of our batteries, and having to turn an obtuse angle, before they were aware they were confronted by a force ready and eager to meet them.

The enemy's troops consisted of eight regiments, four of which were colored troops. They were commanded by Generals Potter and Hatch. The negroes formed the advance, and were near the creek, when our batteries poured spherical shot fast and accurately into their dense columns. They wavered for a moment, but soon regained their spirits, and formed a line of battle parallel with our own along the margin of the swamp.

The battle was renewed at 11 o'clock, and raged with unabated fury until night. The centre and left of the enemy were most exposed. There the loss was very heavy, and there the fighting was most severe. Our left was also exposed, and the enemy made several desperate attempts to turn it, by advancing through the swamp and up the hill, but they were driven back by the resistless valor of our troops.

Several attempts were made to take our batteries, and many got nearly across the swamp, but they could not stand against the withering fire that thinned their ranks. In one of these desperate charges, a colonel of one of the negro regiments was killed while gallantly leading his men across the creek.

The loss of the enemy was estimated at between five and six hundred. Ours was eight killed, and thirty-nine wounded, four mortally.

Our artillery was served with great accuracy, and our infantry behaved with firmness and spirit. The Georgia Brigade was commanded by Col. Willis, who won the admiration of all on the field by his cool and intrepid bearing. The Athens Battalion, under Major Cook, and the Augusta Battalion, under Maj. Jackson, did good service. Too much praise cannot be bestowed.

on the South Carolina Artillery for the handsome manner in which they served their guns.

Major-General Gustavus Smith, of the Georgia State troops, was in command, but the line was immediately under the direction of Col. Colcock, of whose conduct it is impossible to speak in too high terms of praise. Col. Gonzales also participated in the fight, and was seen continually in the thickest of the fire.

It was manifest the enemy was aware he was whipped. But as his retreat in the day would have been extremely perilous, he fled after dark, in hot haste, throwing away everything that impeded his movements. The road for miles was strewn with clothing, provisions, cooking utensils, blankets, and overcoats.

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### BATTERY WAGNER.

JULY, 1864.—The fleet rendered indispensable service in the attacks on Fort Wagner. It is cheerfully admitted that the attempt to take that stronghold was marked by an uncommon degree of skill, courage, resolution and energy. But it is doubtful whether the land forces, unaided by the fleet, could ever have got possession of that powerful work. It was the Ironsides and the monitors mainly that compelled its evacuation. The enemy in front had made no impression upon the compact earth. It is true he continued to advance his lines steadily; but he could not have made nearly so great progress, had he not been assisted by the big guns of his war-vessels.

Every day the frigate and the turretted vessels, together with gunboats, threw immense shot and shell at the Fort. Their position enabled them to enfilade it, and they swept it from one end to the other. The firing, especially that of the Ironsides, was uncommonly accurate. A large proportion of the missiles hit, and many did great damage. From the 18th July to the 8th September, eight Monitors and the Frigate New Ironsides fired one thousand two hundred and fifty-five

10-inch shot, and six thousand and seven hundred and seventy-one 11-inch shot, weighing about six hundred and fifty-four tons.

It is believed that Fort Wagner suffered more severe injury from the Ironsides than from the eight monitors. She fired a broadside of seven 11-inch guns, and her well-trained gunners handled their pieces with consummate skill. Thick and fast the huge shot burst near the work, tore up the ground, buried itself, or threw tons of the turfed earth high in the air. During these terrific bombardments the garrison suffered no little. Unable to make any resistance they sought shelter in the bomb-proofs. The great heat and the enforced inaction, together with the difficulty of procuring water, and the inferior quality of their food, vexed and weakened those noble men. Never was the spirit of a soldier more severely tried than the heroic volunteers who took part in the stout and gallant defence of Battery Wagner. They bore all those greivous evils with patience. As they fought with valour so they endured with fortitude. Their name should be preserved, for it will, after a time, be accounted an honour to one that he took part in the splendid defence of Battery Wagner.

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### A BRUSH.

There was a smart skirmish with the enemy at Legare's, James' Island, on the 22d May, 1864.

One day of the week previous deserters informed our men that an expedition had been projected against James Island, and on Saturday the gunboats shelled Secessionville furiously for the space of two hours. During the night a force of from eight hundred to one thousand landed at Battery and Goat Island. At day-dawn, Sunday, the shelling of Secessionville was renewed, and so heavy was the firing that it was the general opinion in our city that a battle was going on.

The enemy advanced as far as Grimbail's causeway.

They were met there by Captain Humbert, of the 2d S. C. Artillery, who displayed great skill and courage by keeping the whole force in check until the arrival of Major Manigault's Battalion.

Seeing that the handful of men who opposed their progress had been reinforced, the enemy made a determined effort to force their way. But they were met with a resolution and valor superior to their own, and notwithstanding the large odds in their favor, they were forced to remain where they were.

Convinced he could not accomplish anything, the enemy retreated Sunday night, and our pickets resumed their former posts.

This bootless expedition cost the enemy several lives. Our casualties were light.

### COLONEL D. B. HARRIS.

Sept. 26, 1864.—Col. David B. Harris fell a victim to Yellow Fever in Charleston, on the 24th of September, 1864, and in his fifty-first year.

The relation that officer sustained to Fort Sumter, and the splendid earthworks on Sullivan's Island, make it proper to notice his death in this short narrative.

Col. Harris was born in 1813, in Goochland county, Virginia. He graduated at West Point with distinguished honor, at the age of twenty. He served a short time as lieutenant in the First United States Artillery, and then received the appointment of Professor of Engineering at the National Military School.

But weary of the monotonous life he was leading, he resigned his commission the third year after his graduation, and for twenty-five years pursued the easy and independent occupation of planter. In that pleasant employment he was uncommonly successful.

The war found him with plenty, and a quiet mind. But when his mother State sounded the call to arms, he gave up all his enjoyments, and went forth to do his portion of the momentous work.

Girding on his sword, he made all haste to reach the border when there was great excitement and many disaffected spirits. He repaired to Fairfax, then the rendezvous of the Southern forces gathering along the Potomac.

So fine was the reputation the young lieutenant bore, that he was soon afterwards appointed Captain and Chief Engineer on Gen. Beauregard's staff.

I regret that I have neither the space nor the material, had I the ability, to give a worthy sketch of the important and brilliant services rendered by that skillful officer.

While General Beauregard was connected with the Army of Northern Virginia, Col. Harris constructed all the field works required for the protection of his troops. While he was with his Chief in the West, he fortified Island Number Ten, Fort Pillow, Vicksburg, and many other important points. While Gen. Beauregard was kept at Bladen Springs, Col. Harris accompanied General Bragg on that renowned campaign in Kentucky. A short time after the return of General Bragg, he was ordered with General Beauregard to Charleston. The works he built for the defence of our harbor are the proofs of his talents, knowledge and skill, as well as of his untiring energy. He made Fort Sumter impregnable, contributing largely toward prolonging the stubborn defence of Battery Wagner, and constructed that splendid series of earthworks on Sullivan's Island.

He did important service at Petersburg, by which he raised himself still higher in the confidence of his superior officers.

Beginning at the grade of lieutenant, he raised himself by honest labor and brilliant skill through the grades of Major, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Colonel of Engineers. Another promotion was about being conferred upon him, when the pestilence smote him. The Confederacy could have spared many of his rank better than Col. Harris. With a singular fitness for the profession he pursued, and with an intellect of great vigor and clearness, he was industrious, persevering and



pains-taking. He was watchful, cautious, and cool. Danger steadied his nerves, while it aroused all his activity. He possessed that rare endowment common sense in an uncommon degree. While clear of head and firm of will, he was always ready to hear courteously the intelligent suggestions of the plainest man. He was not given to much talking, but when he did talk, his words were to the point. He was a man of work. All he did was done with his might, and to the best of his ability. His successes had increased a wholesome confidence in his capacity, without at all puffing him with pride and vanity. He cultivated courtesy, and always bore himself with modesty. His character was without spot. Adorned with the gentler virtues, and possessed of a genial disposition and a generous heart, he was beloved, respected and admired by every one who knew him. It becomes this community to preserve the memory of his services, and never to let the name of Col. David B. Harris appear less glorious than it does now.

Col. Harris died at Summerville, So. Ca., and the funeral services over his body were performed at St. Paul's Church.

Between Gen. Beauregard and Col. Harris a warm friendship existed. They stood side by side amid imminent dangers, and labored and endured with cheerful hearts and willing hands. In his death, Gen. Beauregard not only deplored the loss of so valuable an officer, but also bemoaned the departure of one whom he loved.

The following is a copy of the letter Gen. Beauregard addressed to the widow of Col. Harris:

JACKSONVILLE, ALA., Oct. 13, 1864.

*Dear Madam:*—I have just heard the painful news of the death, by yellow fever, at Summerville, S. C., of your lamented husband, the late Colonel D. B. Harris, of the Provisional Army, C. S. Engineers. By his demise, the country has lost one of its ablest and most gallant officers, and I have lost one of my best and

most valued friends. Peace be to his ashes. He has died in a noble cause.

The cities of Charleston, S. C., and Petersburg, Va., should erect a monument to his memory.

With a sad and sympathizing heart,  
I remain, dear madam,

Your obedient and respectful servant,

(Signed), G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MRS. D. B. HARRIS, Goochland, Va.

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## SINKING OF THE HOUSATONIC.

FEB. 17, 1864.—February 17th, 1864, the Housatonic was sunk off the harbor by a torpedo.

I am sorry that I have not been able to procure the names of the parties who performed that bold deed. But the act was marked by so rare an exhibition of courage, that I think it deserves mention even without the names.

The Housatonic was anchored outside the bar, two miles and a half from Beach Inlet. The boat that brought her career to ~~an~~ abrupt end was built in Mobile. It was a novel invention, propelled by steam, and so constructed as that it could be sunk and raised at pleasure. It was regarded with suspicion by nearly everybody. The manner in which the singular vessel had behaved did not increase confidence in its pretensions. One crew had gone down in the submarine monster before she was brought to Charleston. Another crew of nine men risked their lives in it, and lost them.

But notwithstanding it had drowned eighteen worthy men, there were many ready, even eager, to take passage in the dangerous craft when she paid an unlooked for visit to the blockading fleet.

The day of the night the perilous undertaking was accomplished, the little war vessel was taken to Beach Inlet. The officer in command told Lieutenant-Colonel Dantzler when they bid each other good-by, that if he came off safe he would show two blue lights. The

lights never appeared. That dauntless spirit did the work only too effectually.

At about eight o'clock the monster left Sullivan's Island, and proceeded on its short, terrible voyage. She was seen by those on the Housatonic when about a hundred yards distant. She approached fast and without noise. The quartermaster examined it carefully through his glass, and pronounced it a school of fish. The undefinable mass continued to draw nearer. It disturbed the minds of those who saw it coming in a straight line toward the ship. It drew nearer, and by this time its form was plainly visible, and the discovery spread terror through the ship. Orders were given to slip the cable and beat to quarters. The machine was so near the vessel that the guns could not be trained upon it, and no harm was done by the revolvers that were freely used while it approached.

The chain of the Housatonic had been slipped, and the engines had just begun to move when the torpedo exploded under her stern. The explosion was terrific. The stern was torn to pieces, a piece ten feet square was blown out of her quarter deck, the spanker boom was broken in its thickest part, and the waters around was covered with splinters of oak and pine.

The water rushed in simultaneously with the crash, and the vessel sank almost immediately. One officer and five men were drowned.

Nothing was seen of the machine after the explosion. It went down with the Housatonic, carrying with it to the depths below, the fearless men who had imperilled their lives in order to inflict damage on the enemy.

The Housatonic was a steam sloop, with a tonnage of 1249, and carried a battery of thirteen guns. She was the first vessel destroyed by a torpedo.

The end of the Housatonic caused a feeling of discomfort throughout the fleet. Every means that could be devised as a protection against torpedoes were adopted. But nothing could rid their bosoms entirely of the horrible apprehension. That success had impressed them with a sense of respect for the ingenuity it exhibited. And they were aware that there were

not wanting daring spirits who would take pleasure in the danger that attended such terrible work. The consequence was that they suffered no little anxiety and were not nearly so happy after as they were before that glorious deed was done.

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## BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER.

The second grand bombardment of Sumter, begun on the 26th October, 1863.

The first bombardment lasted from the 17th August to the 2d September. The fort suffered great damage. It was reduced to a mass of ruins and the guns were silenced. More than half of the artillerists were exhausted by fatigue and exposure. Artillerists were also needed at other points, and they were all withdrawn from the fort on September 5th, with their commander, Col. Alfred Rhett. During these nineteen days seven thousand five hundred and fifty one shots were fired at the fort, and it was hit five thousand six hundred and thirty four times. There were eight men killed and forty seven wounded. The flag was shot away fourteen times.

As it was deemed probable that the enemy would attempt to take Sumter by assault, a garrison, composed entirely of riflemen, was sent down on the 5th September, under Major Stephen Elliott. On the 8th, the fort was assaulted from barges, and the repulse was brilliantly successful without the loss of a man.

From September 5th to October 26th, a period of fifty days, the number of shots fired at the fort was only six hundred and seven, of which three hundred and seventy struck.

During the second terrific bombardment from October 26th to November 5th, seven thousand four hundred and twenty five shots were fired at Fort Sumter, and six thousand two hundred and ninety-eight struck. The casualties were nineteen killed and twenty wound-

ed; thirteen of these were killed by the falling of the barrack wall. The flag placed low at the south-west angle was shot down about twenty times; two ensigns were torn to pieces by the fire.

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## CAPTURE OF THE GUNBOAT ISAAC P. SMITH.

A secret expedition was organized under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph A. Yates, of the 1st South Carolina Regular Artillery, and despatched to John's Island to attack the gunboats that amused themselves by sailing up the Stono, and throwing shot and shell into the woods on either side that river. The force consisted of the following troops: The Siege Train, Co.'s A and B, commanded respectively by Capt. B. C. Webb and Lieut. L. W. Wilson, Major Charles Alston, Jr., being in command of the Battalion; Co. F of the Palmetto Battalion of Light Artillery, under Capt. F. C. Schultz; Co. D, 1st South Carolina Regular Artillery, with a light battery, Capt. F. H. Harleston; one Parrott gun, in charge of Lieut. T. E. Gregg; Co. I, 1st South Carolina Regular Artillery, Capt. J. C. Mitchell; Co.'s H and I, of the 20th S. C. V., commanded respectively by Capt. S. M. Roof and Lieut. M. Gunter, and acting as sharpshooters.

During Thursday night these troops were posted at Legare's Point Place, and Grimbball's, on John's Island, Major Alston commanding the batteries at Grimbball's, Captain Harleston those at Legare's Point Place, Capt. Mitchell having command of the Sharpshooters. A detachment of Major Lucas' Regular Battalion, under Capt. John H. Gary, was stationed at Thomas Grimbball's place on James' Island. They had three 24-pounder rifle guns that were manned by detachments of Companies A, B, and C, under Lieuts. W. G. Ogier and E. B. Calhoun, and Captain T. B. Hayne. Further down the Stono, and on the James' Island side, Major J.

Welsman Brown, with two rifle guns, in charge of a detachment of the Georgia Battalion as Sharpshooters, took up a position so as to command the channel.

On Friday afternoon, at half-past four o'clock, the gunboat Isaac P. Smith steamed up the river. Major Brown and Colonel Yates permitted her to pass their batteries. She came to anchor within easy range of Captain Gary's guns. The Captain thinking she might send a force ashore, waited twenty minutes, when the enemy, showing no disposition to land, he opened fire on the unsuspecting ship, the shots crashing through her sides. The unlooked for attack produced no little excitement on board the Smith, and slipping her cable she retreated with all speed, throwing shot and shell and grape with accuracy, but without doing any damage. Capt. Gary's guns were handled with skill and energy. The vessel soon came within range of Colonel Yates' battery, and received the contents of his well-aimed guns. Nothing ~~daunted~~, she returned the fire, pouring broadside after broadside into the battery. But the terrible concentrated fire from John's Island soon brought the battle to an end. She dropped anchor, and her commander surrendered boat and crew, the prisoners numbering eleven officers and one hundred and eight men.

The enemy's loss in the engagement was nineteen killed and six wounded. Our loss was one killed. The behaviour of our men was worthy of warmest praise. Without breastworks or other protection, they were calm and firm, while the enemy poured shot and shell from eight 8-inch heavy Columbiads, and an 80-pounder Parrott gun, at the short range of between two hundred and three hundred yards.

That night several gunboats steamed up the river, and began shelling the Isaac P. Smith, for the purpose of retaking or destroying her. But Major Brown opened a vigorous fire upon them, and fearful that they might share the fate of the Smith they withdrew.

## MAJOR DAVID RAMSAY.

Major David Ramsay died at his residence, on Broad street, at half past nine o'clock, Tuesday night, August 5th, 1863, from the effects of a wound received during the assault on Battery Wagner, on the 18th of July. He fell while leading his men to occupy an angle of the fort, the gun of which had been disabled.

Major Ramsay was in the vigour of manhood, having been born on the 14th September, 1830. The war's long list of dead does not contain a truer patriot and a braver man than David Ramsay.

He possessed uncommon talents, which were improved by dilligent study. After passing four years at the College of Charleston, where he maintained the highest position for scholarship, he went to Germany, and spent several years at a university, acquiring distinction in all the studies he pursued, and graduating with the highest honors of the institution.

On his return to Charleston, he entered upon the study of law, and was admitted to the bar. He rose rapidly, and at the time of his death had acquired a fine practice and an extensive reputation. He was several times elected to the State Legislature, and made himself conspicuous in that body by the ability and fearlessness with which he advocated such measures as he deemed important.

He took part in the terrible conflict under strong convictions of the duty he owed to his State, and having entered the service of his country as a soldier, he devoted himself faithfully to the cause.

On the organization of the Charleston Battalion, he was elected Major, and he participated in all the labors, hardships and dangers of that gallant command.

Though accustomed to the luxuries and comforts of life, he gave them all up, and endured with cheerful patience and heroic fortitude, the nameless and numerous ills to which he had been all his life a stranger.

Major Ramsay enjoyed large acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics, and his knowledge was profound, varied and accurate. His style was elegant and

nervous, marked by great propriety of language. He was an uncommonly fine talker, and a ready debater. His arguments at the bar were always forcible and clear. He was genial, kindly, and generous. His manners were easy and polished, and his air that of a finished gentleman. He was naturally brave. It is related of him, that during the terrific bombardment of the day on the night of which he received the wound that put an end to his brilliant life, he sat in a chair behind the parapet, enjoying a newspaper, and only laying his paper aside to assist in carrying the wounded across the parade-ground, to the shelter of the bomb-proof.

It is sad to think that one so gifted as he, has fallen in the prime of his powers, and sadder still that he is only one of a large number whom the war cut down, who would have increased the honor of their name.

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### COLONEL THOMAS G. LAMAR.

The name of this gentleman is identified with the valiant and successful defence of Secessionville. That battle was, in point of the number of the enemy engaged, and the importance of the issue, the most noteworthy of all the battles by which the enemy attempted to gain a position that commanded the city.

Col. Lamar's soldiery instincts enabled him to appreciate the excellence of the position occupied by the work, without which the enemy would have won victory. He lost no time in finishing it, his men working with cheerfulness and diligence, and he himself superintending and directing their labors. The small garrison worked all day, and the night previous to the day of the battle was nearly all devoted to exhausting toil. When the heavy columns of the enemy were seen advancing through the hazy light of the morning, many of the garrison were in a deep sleep. The attack was a surprise, but under the inspiring valour of their be-



loved commander, they speedily shook off their languor, and entered the fight with enthusiasm.

When the news of Col. Lamar's death reached the city, it spread sadness throughout the community. All admired him for his high qualities, and all were sensible of the immense debt our citizens owed the departed soldier. It seldom falls to the lot of a man to be mourned with such depth and tenderness, by strangers, as we all bemoaned the untimely death of Col. Lamar.

His illness was caused by exposure in the discharge of his military duties on John's Island. His arduous and prolonged labors had produced so great prostration that it was found impossible to rally his exhausted system, and after a week's illness, he died at the Charleston Hotel, on Friday morning, the 17th October, 1862. His remains were escorted to the South Carolina Railroad Depot by Col. Colquitt's 46th Georgia regiment, and taken to his home in Edgefield.

Mr. Lamar was born in Edgefield District, in the home of his father, an active and successful planter. His youth was marked by courage, constancy, conscientiousness, and all the qualities that formed the adornment of his character in manhood. Having received an academical education he retired to his place in the country, and pursued the healthful and honorable vocation of planter.

In the fall of 1860, he was elected representative of Edgefield District in the General Assembly, and worked and voted for secession. He received an appointment on the staff of Governor Pickens, but the duties of his office were too dull for one of his animated nature and active mind, and he obtained the command of one of the Morris Island batteries. During the investment of Fort Sumter, he wrought laboriously on our works, and took part in the attack on the fort,

Shortly after the battle of Fort Sumter, he returned to his native district and organized an artillery company, which he brought to this city. The fine character of his corps, and the admiration and respect cherished for its captain, procured so many applicants

for membership that it speedily grew into a battalion, and in a short time was swollen to a regiment.

The vastly important service rendered by that regiment upon James' Island is known and appreciated by every member of this community. For the glorious result of the bloody battle at Secessionville, we are more indebted to Colonel Thomas G. Lamar than to any other one man. Never while we take delight in dwelling upon the firm courage and ardent valour our troops displayed on that occasion, can we forget the heroism of him whose command bore the brunt of that desperate fight.

Colonel Lamar occupied a prominent position as an artillery officer. With taste and talents for this branch of service he devoted himself to it with earnest and steady industry. He did not belong to that class of officers who regard work undignified. While he possessed the power to infuse his zeal and enthusiasm into the spirits of his men, he did not content himself with merely directing, but when occasion required, worked with his own hands and with his might.

No officer ever enjoyed to a greater extent the confidence and love of his men than Col. Lamar. He was an excellent disciplinarian, but not unreasonably exacting, and was able to distinguish between important and indifferent things. His authority was maintained not by rough words, stern looks, and a haughty manner, but by the example he placed before his men in meeting all duties and dangers as by virtue of rank.

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### SKIRMISH AT LEGARE'S PLACE ON THE THIRD JUNE, 1862.

It is important that we preserve a record as well of the small as of the great battles, that were fought in the defence of Charleston. For the importance of many of those attempts by the enemy did not depend at all on the number of troops that were sent. Their force was always large enough for the work assigned them,

and far more numerous than our own troops. Had they shown the same stoutness and valour in the attack, as our men displayed in resisting and repelling, they must have been victorious.

Had the enemy at any time secured possession of a point that afforded a base of operations, he would have been largely reinforced speedily, and by the aid of his uncommon ingenuity and energy, he would in a short time have made his position impregnable.

The skirmish that took place on the 3d June, 1862, was distinguished on our side by fine strategy and great ardour. The troops that took part in that engagement were four companies of the 24th—the Marion Rifles, Pee Dee Rifles, Evans' Guard, and Colleton Guard, and five companies of the Charleston Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Gaillard; all under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Ellison Capers, of the 24th Regiment.

On arriving at Secessionville with his four companies to recover two guns of Captain Chichester's battery, which had been stuck in the mud, Colonel Capers learned from Colonel Lamar that our pickets had been driven into Rivers', and that the guns were covered by the enemy. Colonel Capers was ordered to drive them back. Uniting the Beauregard Light Infantry and the Charleston Riflemen with his force, Col. Capers formed his line at the head of the causeway facing Legare's, threw out the Marion Rifles, Capt. Sigwald, as skirmishers, and ordered him to advance and draw the enemy's fire. The Marion Rifles executed the order in a most handsome manner, driving the enemy's skirmishers back, and occupying the pieces.

Col. Capers then crossed the causeway by flank, and deployed on the other side; throwing his companies forward on the right, where they poured so hot a fire into the hostile ranks that they fell back on this side Legare's old field. There a fight with musketry was kept up with much spirit for half an hour, when Col. Capers advanced and drove through the woods, the enemy retiring across the old field to the house beyond. From that point the enemy poured bullets in a steady stream,

but the firing was wild and did no damage. The 28th Massachusetts, which constituted the enemy's reserve, was posted below the negro houses, a quarter of a mile to the south. Col. Capers made a rapid charge on the main building, to cut off the advance from his support. This was a movement full of danger, for in executing it the troops would have to go within a half mile of the river, and exposed to the guns of the vessels which doubtless were prepared, if occasion served, to take part in the fight.

At that moment Lieutenant-Colonel Gaillard, with a portion of his command, reported to Lieutenant-Colonel Capers, and was assigned to the command of the centre and left as a reserve. Col. Gaillard's force was composed of the Evans' Guard, Capt. Gooding, Charleston Riflemen, Lieut. Lynah, Irish Volunteers, Capt. Ryan, Beauregard Light Infantry, Capt. White, Sumter Guard, Lieut. J. Ward Hopkins, and the Calhoun Guard, Capt. Miles.

The gallant movement was brilliantly successful. Twenty-two persons were captured, among whom were a captain and sergeant. Being exposed to a heavy fire from the gun-boats, and a more damaging one from the enemy in the negro huts, Col. Capers ordered his troops to fall back under cover of the woods.

Col. Capers, in the report from which this account is taken, speaks in high terms of the behavior of all the officers and men engaged in the affair. Capt. Clina surrendered his sword to Capt. Ryan, of the Irish Volunteers. The companies of the 24th went into action after a long march and on empty stomachs, but they could not have fought better had they been fresh and full.

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## EVACUATION OF CHARLESTON.

On the night of the 19th February, 1865, the City of Charleston was evacuated by the Confederate forces. On leaving they left behind them several squads of men to burn cotton, spike and dismount the heavy

guns on the wharves, and to gather the stragglers and dodgers. On the afternoon of the 19th, those who had been detailed to burn cotton, commenced to fire it in the yard of the South Carolina Railroad. They had previously piled the cotton very high. The consequence was that the flames endangered the surrounding buildings. The Mayor ordered the piles to be levelled; one of his most useful officers, Mr. Hicks, was exceedingly active in executing this order. The piles were levelled, and the fire thereby was prevented from extending. The police and fire department deserve credit for their exertions. After the Federal troops occupied the city, officer Hicks was arrested on a charge of burning cotton, and confined, without a trial, four months in Castle Pinckney. He was a union man and voted against secession, but he was a good public officer, and had made, in the discharge of his duties, many enemies; and the eager ear of triumphant foes listened to all stories that would give them a *victim*. The morning of the 20th Feb., before day, the city was lighted with cotton fires. A considerable amount of cotton was stored at the wharves of Lucas' Mill, for the supply of the blockade runners, a large amount of it was piled in the yard of the North-Eastern Railroad Company—the whole was on fire. The residence of the French Consul, in Calhoun street, which was filled with jewelry and plate of French citizens, was much endangered by the fire at Lucas' Mills. The fire department saved the house to the credit of our city. The military seemed to think that the burning of one bale of cotton did more damage to the enemy, than the laying in ashes of a whole square of the city did to ourselves. The burning of the cotton at the depot of the North-Eastern Railroad resulted in a terrible calamity. The Confederate troops had left in the depot a large amount of provisions, informally turned over to the city authorities for the poor. The poor and that element of society which is kept in order by law, (the respect for law being at this time lessened) rushed in to take the provisions. The military had also left a large amount of cannon powder in cartridges

in the depot. The boys soon found that they could have sport by throwing these cartridges on the burning cotton. In running to and fro with the cartridges, the drippings of powder from the bags established a train between the fire and the powder. In an instant, a flash from the fire to the powder blew up the depot. It fell in ruins and on fire—what number of men, women and children were buried in the burning ruins will never be known. It is supposed that there were from 100 to 150. The catastrophe created no sensation, except with those immediately interested. If the number destroyed had been 1,000, there would have been no general sympathy. Each citizen had his own trouble and care. They all felt that an earthquake was approaching, and that though under God's providence the earth under their feet was solid and firm, it would destroy their social and political existence. Subsequent events have shown that their apprehensions were right. The firemen and citizens, terrified by the sudden and unexpected explosion at the railroad, retreated, and the destroying element had a fine field. In the meanwhile, a fire was burning on East Bay, which destroyed, amongst other buildings, the large school buildings of Madame DuPre. It is due to Alderman W. H. Kirkwood to state, that by his influence and personal exertions, this fire was prevented from further extension. A little later, a fire was discovered in the block of brick buildings in Meeting street, known as the Blake buildings, but there was no means of suppressing it, there being no wind, it burnt itself out.

While all these fires were burning, at about 11 o'clock, A.M., an explosion took place on the river, at the foot of Calhoun street. The Confederate iron-clad steamer *Palmetto* was blown up. The concussion was sharp over the whole city. A volume of smoke arose over the sinking ship. It gradually disappeared, until in broad relief on the blue expanse of heaven stood the *perfect* form of a *Palmetto Tree*. It was palpable for moments; then gradually disappeared. Could the finger of God have been in this? Yes! The State of which the tree was

an emblem, has since disappeared, and the shade which arose from the sinking iron-clad which made her defence, by its sudden disappearance, foreshadowed the accepted future.

The Mayor had been requested by the departing Confederates to abstain from informing the Federals as long as he could help, stating that they did not think the Federals would know of their retreat until Monday morning. As a caution, however, the Mayor placed a sentinel in the steeple of the Orphan House to watch. About 10 o'clock, A.M., the sentinel reported a boat coming to the city, with the flag of the United States flying. The Mayor then immediately sent the Clerk of Council to inform the enemy that the Confederate forces had left. The boats very soon met. The Federal troops very soon began to take possession of the city. To the credit of the population of the city, white and black, during the evacuation and the capture of the city, by the respective forces, perfect order prevailed. The police of the city performed their duties, and were respected and obeyed until the order putting the city under martial law appeared.

The Mayor of the city, on Sunday, Feb. 21, called on the Commanding General, Gen. Schimelfennig. After waiting an half-hour, he was informed that the General did not desire to see him. The Mayor retired, of course. The next day commenced a scene. The streets were filled with furniture carts. Every house that was unoccupied was entered. All the furniture which was left (under shelling) was seized as derelict. All cotton, all goods from foreign ports, in original packages were seized. Every buggy and horse was taken for military purposes. The streets were lined with furniture carts filled with pianos, mirrors, bedsteads, &c.

Corporal squads of black troops were sent through the city to every man's house, and two or three times to each house to tell the servants they were free. (All the negroes knew it without such visits.) Other squads visited the houses of unprotected females, demanding chickens for the Commanding General, and took turkeys for chickens.

LETTER OF ALFRED HUGER, Esq., ON THE  
DEATH OF MR. PETIGRU.

LONGWOOD, March 15, 1863.

TO DR. BENJAMIN HUGER.

Dear Sir :—Mr. Wm. Harleston very kindly promised to bring my letters and papers with him to your house to-day: and if he has done so, I would thank you to send them by the bearer.

I reached the only home I have left, on Saturday evening, exhausted in body and depressed in spirits. Petigru's illness and unmeasured sufferings put what strength I had in severe requisition, and his death admonishes me of a heavy bereavement. The blows came in such quick succession, that there is hardly "twilight enough to separate the darkness of one from the glare of another," and nothing save the equal pressure of sorrow on every side prevents me from falling. I had implicit confidence in Petigru, and never knew any single man who was as near being an institution by himself. Original in all things—if his character was a mosaic, he furnished the particles from his own resources, wearing such colors as nature gave him, and borrowing none from his fellows, either for ornament or for use. Conscientious in matters of truth, he would cavil about a hair. Generous and brave, he would give without measure, and ask nothing in return. His probity never was shaken by adversity, and his gentleness and mercy were increased by his prosperity. Elevated in every sentiment, he dealt lightly with those who needed his forgiveness; uncompromising where his own rights were assailed, he was sure to put those who denied them at utter defiance; his thoughts emanated from his own mind, his opinions became his convictions, and his convictions part of his belief in God. When he acted with others, it was because they agreed with him. When he was overpowered by numbers, he submitted to the law, but never to the victor. He could stand alone without dismay, preferring always the gratitude of the weak and helpless to the patronage of the powerful and the strong. In every conflict



Petigru was himself, when his equals were needed, *few* answered to their names; and when his superiors were called, *none* were forthcoming. He knew how to strike the hardest blows, and he knew how to receive them, for he never hesitated to strike when the provocation was sufficient, and he never winced or quailed, no matter how deadly was the returning arrow.

If there is any man now living in South Carolina capable of writing the history of his own times, Petigru, for the highest aspirations as to duty or honor, for the boldness of his thinking, for the brightness of his genius, for the grasp of his intellect, for the purity of his friendship, for the unselfishness of his nature, will be ranked with those of whom the State has most reason to be proud. Preaching the doctrine of an exalted benevolence, his charities kept pace with his teachings; and, limited in means, when denial was necessary, he began always with himself. He loved to help others, and to be in partnership with misfortune; and doing good without restraint, he was the living, moving, acting principle of those qualities which carried to his grave the profoundest reverence of the rich, and the heart-stricken lamentations of the poor.

If this outpouring is tiresome or tedious, I ask for the forgiveness which was the prominent attribute of the subject. None loved me more, and none was more beloved.

ALFRED HUGER.

## THE BATTLE OF SECESSIONVILLE.

[We are indebted for the following brief description of the Battle of Secessionville, to one who was a participant in the fight. Its accuracy, may, therefore, be relied on.]

CHARLESTON, July 6, 1866.

Mr. J. N. Cardozo :

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I herewith give you a short and succinct account of the attack on Secessionville, on the 16th June, 1862.

The Federal forces threw their first shell into Secessionville on the 2nd June, on which day there was an artillery engagement, the several infantry commands at and near that point being sent out to support the several batteries of ours which participated in the engagement. Previous to this, several shells, thrown from gunboats, (at Grimball's) in the Stono, fell near to the works, but outside.

On the 3d June, a skirmish took place on Mr. Solomon Legare's plantation, in the early part of the day, which was over by 9 o'clock, A. M.

On the 4th June, different arrangements of the troops were made, and the garrison of Secessionville was composed of a battalion of infantry, seven companies, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Smith, of Marlboro, (afterwards the 26th S. C. Regiment), the Charleston Battalion, six companies, under command of Col. Gaillard, and two companies from Col. Lamar's Regiment of Artillery, in all not exceeding five hundred men, and I believe less than that.

From the 2d to the 16th, this garrison was subjected to severe shelling, by which the men were seriously annoyed, though only one life was lost. The loss of rest, together with the work we were called upon to do, such as strengthening the little work already erected, and digging rifle pits, had completely exhausted them, so much so, that Gen. Pemberton, after a visit to the post on the 15th, ordered them to be relieved on that very day, which order, however, was not carried out.

During the fortnight preceding the attack, the two companies of artillery were kept constantly at work with spades and shovels, and in mounting guns. At the time of the assault, four guns (one 8 inch columbiad, two 24 pounders, one 18 pounder, and one mortar, size not remembered), constituted the armament of the work.

After dark on the 15th, the infantry portion of the garrison were called upon to turn out and remove some heavy guns which had been sent there by water. Col. Gaillard declined to turn his command out, giving

his reasons for so doing, in writing, the principal of which was that they were so fagged out from want of rest, that it was requiring too much of them.

As we had completed a set of rifle pits that day, his men took to them at dark, and enjoyed the first night's rest they had for some time, and were in better condition to meet the assault, than could have been the case, had they been kept at work all night, as would have been the case, had he answered the call.

At 3 o'clock, on the morning of the 16th, he was aroused by a staff officer, who brought him a peremptory order, to turn out his command and assist in the removal of the guns already referred to. The men were instantly roused, and upon going to the guns, (one of which had been slung to the truck the day before) a detachment of one hundred men from Col. Goodlet's regiment, (22d S. C.) marched up, stacked arms, and laid hold of the drag rope. Just as we got to the place where he was directed to take the gun, some three hundred yards or more from the wharf, a Parrot shell passed over our heads\* without exciting any suspicion of what was to follow, as we had become accustomed to them. In a very few minutes after, one of the sentinels on the works gave the alarm, and I distinctly heard Col. Lamar call to his men in words of encouragement. The whole infantry force was then from three hundred to four hundred yards from their arms, and were immediately ordered to return for their arms. After obtaining their arms, they had then to go from three to five hundred yards to reach the work and assist in repelling the attack. This took about twenty minutes, during which time the artillery alone resisted the assaulting lines.

Two companies of infantry (one from each battalion) were on picket in front of the work. From this picket line were thrown out vidette parties, still farther in advance, every man of whom, with one exception, was captured, not however until after they had fired upon the enemy, and, as stated in one of Gen. Stevens' com-

\* I have always believed that this was the signal for the commencement of the assault.

munications, killed and wounded several of his men. Owing to a high wind from the east, (they being to our west) these guns were not heard, and the alarm was first given by a sentinel posted on the works, which alarm I heard myself.

I have always considered this attack as a surprise, and view it in that light still

It may be as well to state that the artillery were armed with musketry, and those who were not serving at the guns, made good use of their muskets. One of the 24-pounders did not bear on the enemy, it having been so placed as to answer the fire of a gun-boat which occasionally came into one of the creeks for the purpose of shelling our works.

After the assault in front had been repelled, a fresh body of Federal troops advanced through Hill's place, upon our right. This place was separated from Secessionville by a piece of marsh, some one hundred and fifty to two hundred yards wide, and they formed line along the marsh, taking us in flank as well as in rear.

As the artillery could not be brought to bear upon them in this position, we opposed them with musketry stationed in pits, which we had prepared on our side of the marsh.

Up to this time the defence was carried on entirely by the troops above enumerated, but soon after the formation of the enemy on the edge of the marsh, the 4th Louisiana battalion arrived, having been sent to reinforce us. In about a half hour after they joined in the fight, the enemy withdrew, and there ended the affair, as far as the troops at Secessionville were concerned, though a heavy shelling of the works was continued for several hours. The withdrawal of the enemy from this point was due in a great measure, I think, to the opening of a gun on Clark's place in their rear, and probably also, they may have received information of the approach of our troops, outside of Secessionville.

I trust you will find what you wish in this statement, and that you will use it as you see fit.

Yours, very truly.

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